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ABSTRACT

As institutional roles change in response to contemporary pressures on them, new opportunities arise for combining forces to achieve common objectives. With today's technological revolution in handling information, the role of the public library is both challenged and reaffirmed. Resources may be allocated from state and national levels of government to achieve many of the objectives attached to library systems. This plan report was prepared in order to help apportion these funds to produce the greatest impact on the library's program. The report approach is to analyze the efficacy of the present library system in terms of both shifting and traditional needs. This analysis is held up against desirable objectives and standards, then matched with available local ability to resolve the difference. The need and priority of assistance from other governmental levels will be derived from this analysis. (Author/NH)

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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR LIBRARIES

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INTRODUCTION

Need For The Library Plan

A review of the Seattle Public Library system has revealed an excellent coverage of library service in many areas. Indeed, national recognition has been accorded the quality of the overall system, and particular branches have been singled out for praise by architectural and other design experts.

Nevertheless, a feeling has persisted that some library service needs are not being met in a wholly satisfactory manner. In part this is due to economic and resultant population growth beyond the capacity of the City to finance expansion of the system of physical facilities. In another respect, the fluidity of society itself makes certain traditional library functions fall behind the pace of changing demands by the population.

As institutional roles change in response to contemporary pressures on them, new opportunities arise for combining forces to achieve common objectives. The library is not the only institution concerned with distribution of information both general and specific, but it is a traditional and central one. With today's technological revolution in handling information, the role of the public library is both challenged and reaffirmed. Resources may be allocated from state and national levels of government to achieve many of the objectives attached to library systems.

Whatever the source of scarce financial resources, it is very essential to apportion those funds to produce the greatest impact on the library's program. To achieve this, the following plan report has been prepared jointly by the Library and City Planning staffs.

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The report approach is to analyze the efficacy of the present Library system in terms of both shifting and traditional needs. This analysis is held up against desirable objectives and standards then matched with available local ability to resolve the difference. The need and priority of assistance from other governmental levels will be derived from this analysis.

The Library Board

The management and control of the Seattle Public Library is vested in a board of trustees. The Seattle City Charter states:

> "There shall be five library trustees as contemplated by state law who shall constitute and be known as The Library Board, and be the governing body of the library. The Mayor, with the consent of the City Council shall appoint the five trustees, each of whom (1) shall hold office for five years without compensation . . .".

Of special interest to this report, is the responsibility of the Board of Library Trustees with respect to property of the library and to the acquisition of library sites and buildings. Section 27.12.210 of the Revised Code of Washington provides that the trustee shall:

> "Have the supervision, care, and custody of all property of the library, including the rooms of buildings constructed, leased, or set apart therefor:
>
> Lease or purchase land for library buildings:
>
> Lease, purchase, or erect an appropriate building or buildings for library purposes, and acquire such other property as may be needed therefor."

Role of the
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Role of the Seattle City Planning Commission

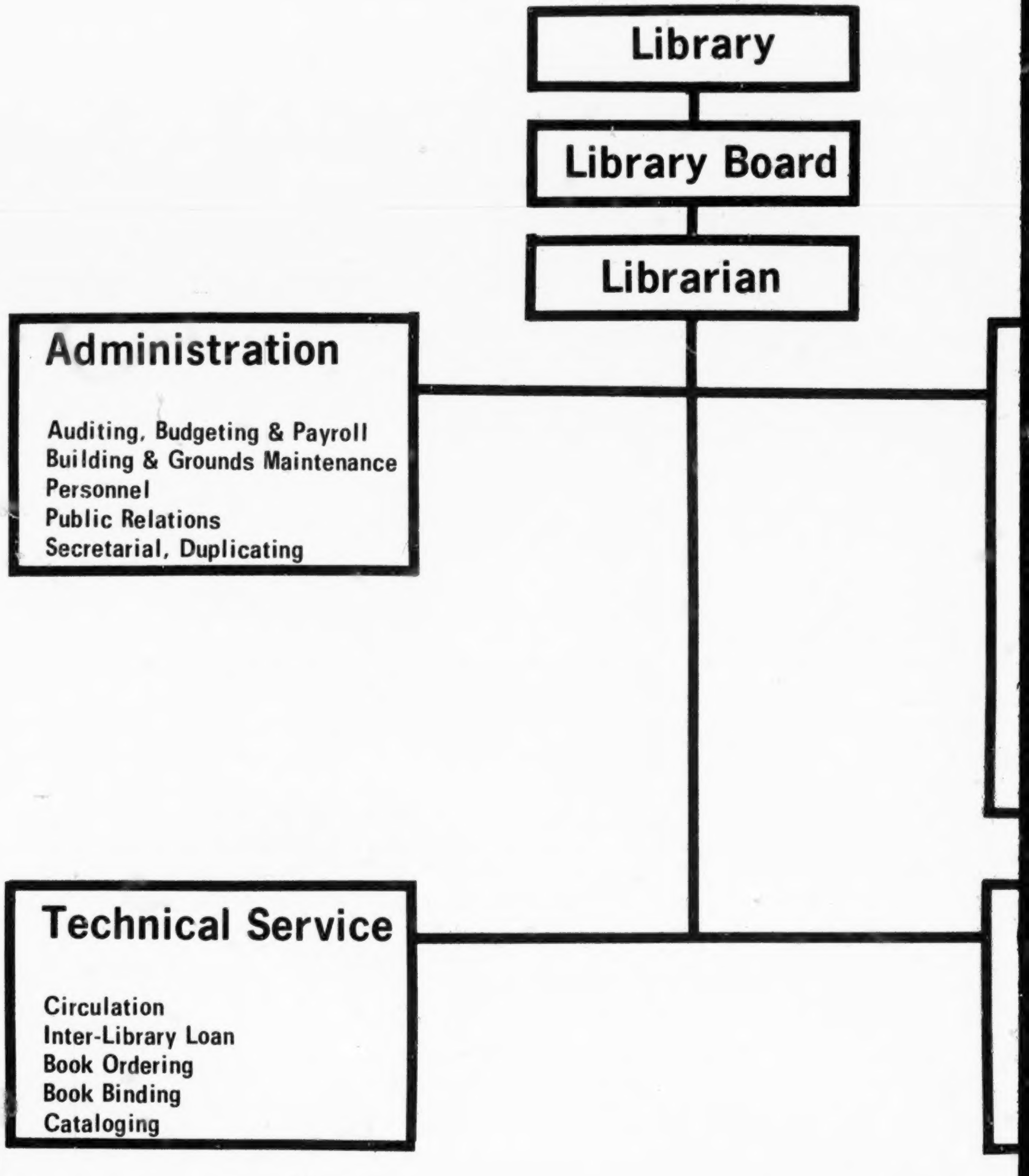
Article XIV Sec. 3 of the Charter of the City of Seattle defines in broad terms the duties of the Planning Commission in regard to comprehensive planning for the City of Seattle. It states:

> "Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of such commission to aid the Legislative Authority of the City from time to time by preparing, adopting and revising, in an advisory capacity, such plans for the development of the City as its present and future needs may require."

In addition:

The preamble to the Seattle City Planning Commission bylaws describes the scope of the Comprehensive Plan to include the ". . . recommended general location and extent of municipal facilities . . .". In accordance with this concern, the City Planning Commission authorized its staff, together with the staff of the Seattle Public Library, to prepare a joint planning report. Together their efforts have been directed at combining the requirements of the library system with what is known of the characteristics and desires of the population in areas which the library intends to serve.

ORGANIZATION OF LIBRARY SYSTEM



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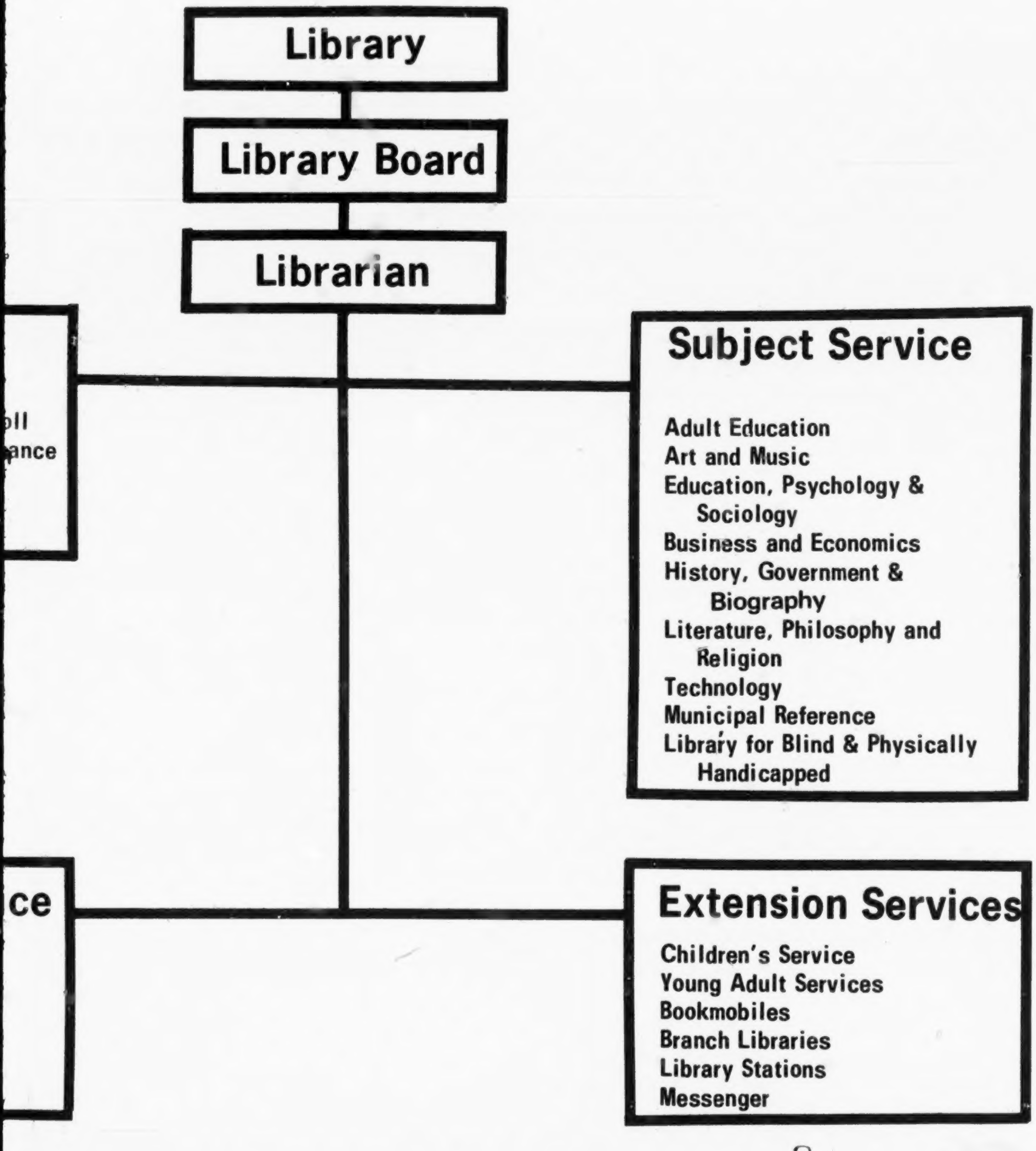

Function of the Public Library

The Seattle Public Library subscribes to the philosophy that its objectives are to assemble and preserve books and related educational materials, to organize and interpret them and offer guidance in their use. This service is offered to the patrons of the library to facilitate informal self education of all people in the community, to support the educational, civic and cultural problems and needs of the community, to answer reference questions, and to encourage wholesome recreation and constructive use of leisure time.

All activities of the Seattle Public Library are designed to facilitate access to its resources, to remove barriers, to invite use, and to guide the reader toward a more purposeful communication with the world of ideas. To this end, the library acts as a service center, to provide the printed and allied materials, the controversial, the exciting and conflicting ideas, for all the community to weigh and use for information, self-development, enlargement of knowledge and the appreciation and enjoyment of life.

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Organization of the Library System

In Seattle, library service is offered through the Central Library, built in 1960, 15 branch libraries, six small libraries (stations), two bookmobiles, a Municipal Reference Library, and a Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

The Central Library, with a book capacity of 1,110,000 volumes, is the reference and research center of the library system. Here, at one point, accessible to all, will be found an extensive collection of reference materials and books of all kinds, specialized files, sets of periodicals, government documents, industrial publications, general and specialized bibliographies, audio-visual materials including records and films, and selected foreign publications.

The 15 branch libraries serve the various neighborhoods and communities of the city with collections of 20,000 to 45,000 books. The branches have lively and interesting collections selected from numerous fields in accordance with the reading interests of the communities, and a limited number of reference books, encyclopedias, and periodicals. Special attention is afforded in all branches to work with children and the juvenile book collection. Collectively the branches circulate a far greater number of books than the Central Library.

Branches are located in a manner to be accessible to the various members of Seattle households, particularly to those who do not travel downtown every day. Their location and design is ideally more compatible with the everyday shopping and travel patterns of the widest cross-section of people throughout the city.

Library stations constitute a further extension of library service to places where people live and shop. They are a more tentative arrangement than branch libraries, intentionally left free to move to larger and more permanent quarters when more is known of the demand for library service in a particular area. Stations are usually relied upon in situations where topography or distance restrict an area's access to a more completely equipped branch and where population of such an area is too small to justify construction of a full branch. Sometimes a station is placed in an experimental location to test demand for library service. Such a test may lead to later construction of a full branch when demand justifies this measure.

The furthest geographic extension of public library service is provided by the City's two bookmobile units. They are able to reach living areas which are presently remote from convenient access to more permanent library facilities. Typically, they make regular stops at schools, shopping areas, nursing homes and homes for the aged. The depth of the collections carried by these mobile units must necessarily be more restricted than any of the collections in larger facilities, but the convenience they provide to some areas make this service a vital link in the library system's operation.

There are, in addition, two specialized library installations which are not related to Seattle's residential locations. These are the Municipal Reference Library and the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. They will be described in more detail in a subsequent section.

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The Public Library and the School

While it is true that all public elementary and secondary schools in Seattle have their own libraries, the Seattle Public Library continues to be called upon for service. The Library offers the student long hours of service, a greater scope and usually a greater quantity of materials, in a non-academic setting. The public library has a responsibility to provide a degree of service to every large group of potential patrons in its service area, and from a third to a fourth of the local population is in school. That responsibility and that cooperation is undertaken with the understanding that both the school library and the public library are needed in the important and ever more complex task of bringing books and other materials and related services to all citizens, teachers and to all school children.

It is a fact that libraries and schools are both educational institutions with similar aims, in the large sense, but the approach, specific purposes and methods of operation are quite different. Neither a school library nor a public library can adequately take the place of the other. The public library offers a voluntary informal service throughout the lifetime of the citizen. The resources of the school library are directed toward the instructional program of the particular school, and serve young people whose school attendance is compulsory. Different types of leadership, operation and book collections are required by the two institutions. Book collections suitable for elementary, junior and senior high school clients are not suitable for adults.

Upon invitation from the school principal, the Seattle Public Library bookmobile brings books to 33 grade and parochial schools on a monthly basis. This provides supplementary reading material to those schools which are located at some distance from the branch library. That this service is both necessary and popular is proved by the fact that more requests for service are received each year than can be handled.

The Seattle Public Library actively seeks the attendance of grade school children in its libraries by providing story telling programs, book talks, puppet shows, films, summer reading clubs and class visits to the libraries for instruction in proper library usage. When new curricula require supplemental material beyond the resources of the school library, the public library is ready with its materials to help the teacher and the school librarian.

The children's department of Seattle Public Library conducts regular book meetings where the staff evaluates new children's books, and prepares a selective list of new publications. This annotated list includes those titles which, in the opinion of the children's department staff, meet national standards of quality. Children's librarians from the surrounding counties, as well as administrative personnel from the Seattle School system regularly attend these meetings and use the lists to help with their book purchases.

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The Public Library and the Suburbs

In addition to the service it provides to the citizens of the city of Seattle, the resources of the public library are available to residents of King County who live in those areas which contract with or are served by the King County Library System. The Seattle Public Library receives $20,000 yearly from the King County Library System for this service. Residents living outside the above mentioned areas may use the library upon payment of an annual $5.00 non-resident fee. Complete cooperation and understanding exists between the administrators of the two library systems in the matter of locating branch libraries so that overlapping of service areas does not occur.

A small station-type library of some 2,500 books, located at Rockport, Washington, and open 6 hours per week, offers library service to some 335 City Light employees and their families.

STANDARDS FOR BRANCH LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY STATIONS

Standards

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Standards

Of prime concern in this report are the standards for branch libraries, for these are the elements of Seattle's library system which will require the greatest investment in the immediate future. A number of areas in the City today receive a below standard level of branch service, due to such factors as poor location, small size of building or site, and antiquated structures. Some branches fall short of desirable goals, as evidenced by uneconomically low circulation levels.

The emphasis in the remainder of the report, then, is to establish a set of standards for branch libraries and to analyze branch library service in relation to these standards. Seattle's Central Library is new and modern and approaches or exceeds national standards in many respects and for this reason is not given special consideration. The far-reaching branch library system is the most important element in the public library system to a large number of households throughout the City and must be evaluated within a consistent framework. Because branch libraries are a linked series of facilities intended to serve local populations, they can be compared to one another and to standards established through consideration of such factors as population size and distribution, arterials, site size, and circulation based on local and national experience. On the other hand specialized facilities, such as the bookmobile or the Library for the Blind, serve the City as a whole and are unique enough in character to be separately considered in light of their particular requirements.

Relationship of Branch Libraries to other Public Facilities

The basic requirement for a good library location is one which permits the library to serve the greatest number of readers, adult students and information seekers at the least unit cost.[2] It means a location within or adjacent to a community shopping area, on a corner lot which fronts on a community arterial. The branch should occupy an outstanding setting to provide ready identification to the passerby.

A branch library should not be placed in or too near to school complexes, for these are very often located away from pedestrian and community shopping centers, and consequently away from adults who are the library's most important market. A branch library is, in a sense, a business establishment. Its locational requirements, therefore, are those of a successful retail business and not those of a school. Its books and related material collections should not be limited to the interest of a school-age population if it is to serve a community which necessarily includes all age levels.

Although a general principle of branch library location shuns illogical and artificial combinations of public services, a branch library could indeed function very well in a community center if the location criteria of the center were compatible with those of the library.

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[2] WHEELER & GOLDHOR PRACTICAL ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES, P. 556

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LOCATION

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RATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES, P. 556

Standards for Branch Library Service

LOCATION

Branch

1. At or near a point of high pedestrian activitv and where the general character of pedestrians are representative of the general public rather than a unique group such as school children. Shopping areas (or centers) have been suggested as an ideal location.

2. On an arterial.

3. Within one block of public transportation, especially where public transit routes from two or more directions intersect.

4. Service area of a branch library should average approximately 1–1½ miles depending upon topography and arterial street locations. Population in the service area should range between 20,000–60,000 persons, depending upon density of population in a given geographic area.

5. Generally, the same criteria used to describe a successful retail business location could be applied to branch library locations.

Station

1. Location of a library station should approximate as closely as possible the standards set for branch libraries. As many of the areas to be served by stations are more recently developed, the central focus of residential population and shopping areas may be harder to determine, so the location could be considered experimental.

2. Service radius of a station should average approximately one mile, partially based on the smaller collection of books available and consequently a lesser drawing power than that of a branch.

3. The population to be served should be approximately 10,000 people.

Regional Library for the Blind and Handicapped

1. Because so much of the circulation of this facility is done on a mail-order basis, its location is relatively independent of any local population.

2. This specialized facility could be expected to maximize its exposure to users and potential users by locating on a bus line near another facility frequently visited by people with various physical handicaps.

3. The location should be convenient to the Post Office in order to facilitate the shipping functions of the library.

Bookmobile Headquarters

1. This facility should be centrally located and convenient to the freeway.

2. Where space in the lower floor of an existing library meets all special requirements of the bookmobile department, then this is a logical economic solution.

Standards f

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Standards for Libraries

SITE

The private automobile, as the most usual mode of library users' transportation, must have prominent consideration when choosing a branch library site. Thus the site should include at least one parking space for each 300 square feet of building space open to the public, ease of access, an obvious relationship between the parking lot and the main entrance, visibility into the building from the street and the sidewalk, and a level entrance providing easy access for the handicapped. Provision for setbacks enabling complementary landscaping and a service entrance are basic requirements. Suitable outdoor reading space is desirable.

BUILDING

A branch library should be housed in an aesthetically pleasing, functional building with a total square footage from 7,000 to 15,000 square feet, depending upon size of the service area and its projected growth. Since the convenience and comfort of the public is given primary importance, the branch library should have:

a readily apparent exterior identification and illumination . .
book and reading areas easily visible from the exterior . .
entry access and interior features to facilitate use by the handicapped . . .
a one-floor structure to assure economy of operation and ease of use by patrons . . .
a design to permit easy expansion.

SERVICE

A branch library meeting national standards offers a full range of library services and materials. It is equipped with a wide selection of circulating books, pamphlet-type materials, current and some back files of magazines, an adequate number of reference books, pictures, recordings and maps. It offers the usual circulation services, as well as reading guidance for adults, children and students, book centered programs tailored to the interests and needs of the neighborhood, and active cooperation with the schools, social agencies, clubs and organizations in its community. The extent of the services and the size of the book collection is determined by the size of the building which is directly related to the size of the service area.

Wheeler and Goldhor[4] suggest a minimum book stock of 25,000 in a branch library with 1,500 volumes added each year, combined with an active discarding program. The above authors also suggest a minimum service area of 30,000 population, assuring a yearly circulation of at least 100,000 home loans to justify operation of the branch.

Staff requirements are entirely dependent upon the degree of service offered and the size of the agency. American Library Association standards suggest a workload of 20,000 to 25,000 circulation per full time equivalent staff member.

With respect to service hours, library hours should be such that maximum use can be made of the facilities to satisfy all the interests of the community. Unless this is done, sizeable parts of the population will find it simply impractical to use the agency they support. The standard Committee of the Public Library Association, in its "Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems," 1966, published by the American Library Association recommends that branches be open six days per week for the full range of services during morning, afternoon and evening hours.

Where facilities are present, the library makes its meeting rooms available to groups requesting their use.

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[4] WHEELER & GOLDHOR: PRACTICAL ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES, P. 412

Summary of Standards for Branch Libraries

LOCATION

Population of Service Area:
20,000 – 60,000 depending on population density.

Auto Accessibility:
5 minutes driving time, non-rush hour traffic. On a community arterial or at intersection of two arterials.

Transit Accessibility:
Within one block of a transit line and preferable near two intersecting transit routes.

Area of Natural Attraction:
At or near an area of high pedestrian activity (such as a shopping center) where the character of the pedestrians is general as opposed to a specialized group such as school children.

SITE

Size:
25,000 – 40,000 square feet – preferably rectangular in shape. Space for future expansion. Approximately three times area of building.

Parking:
One parking space per 300 square feet of public floor space (Seattle Zoning Ordinance). Parking area separated from non-parking pedestrian traffic.

Landscaping:
Vary according to characteristics of site, terrain, and area – Easy maintenance a prime factor.

BUILDING

Size:
7,000 – 15,000 square
population.

Design:
Single level; Dignity with
inward; Provisions for
expansion.

Seating:
2 seats per 1,000 populati

Book Stock:
One volume per capita. 25,
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Staff Size:
10 – 15 employees

Hours of Service:
48 – 60 hours per week

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BUILDING

Size:
7,000 – 15,000 square feet. Approximately 1 sq. ft./4 population.

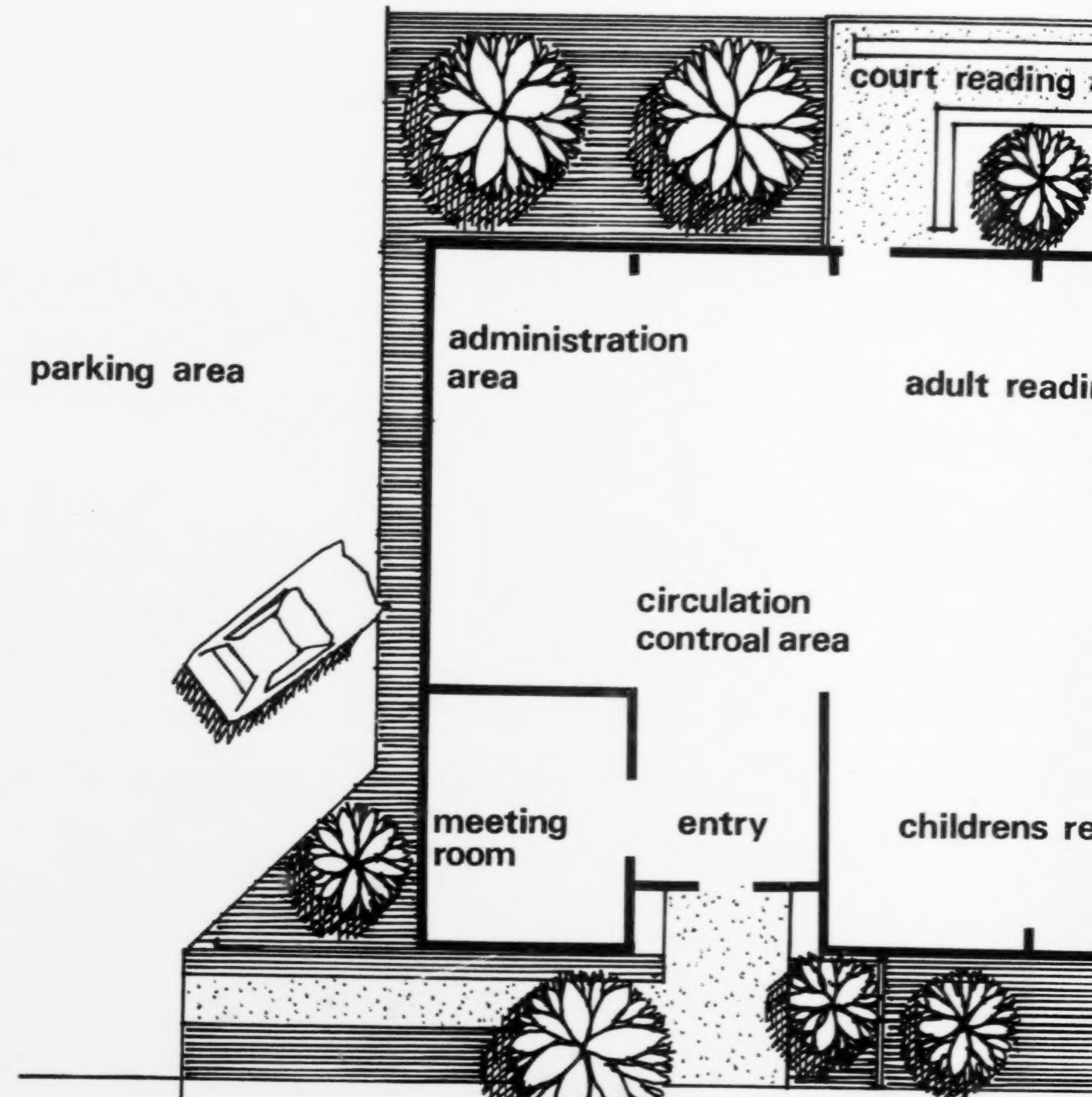
Design:
Single level; Dignity without monumentality; Inviting view inward; Provisions for handicapped; Adaptable for expansion.

Seating:
2 seats per 1,000 population served.

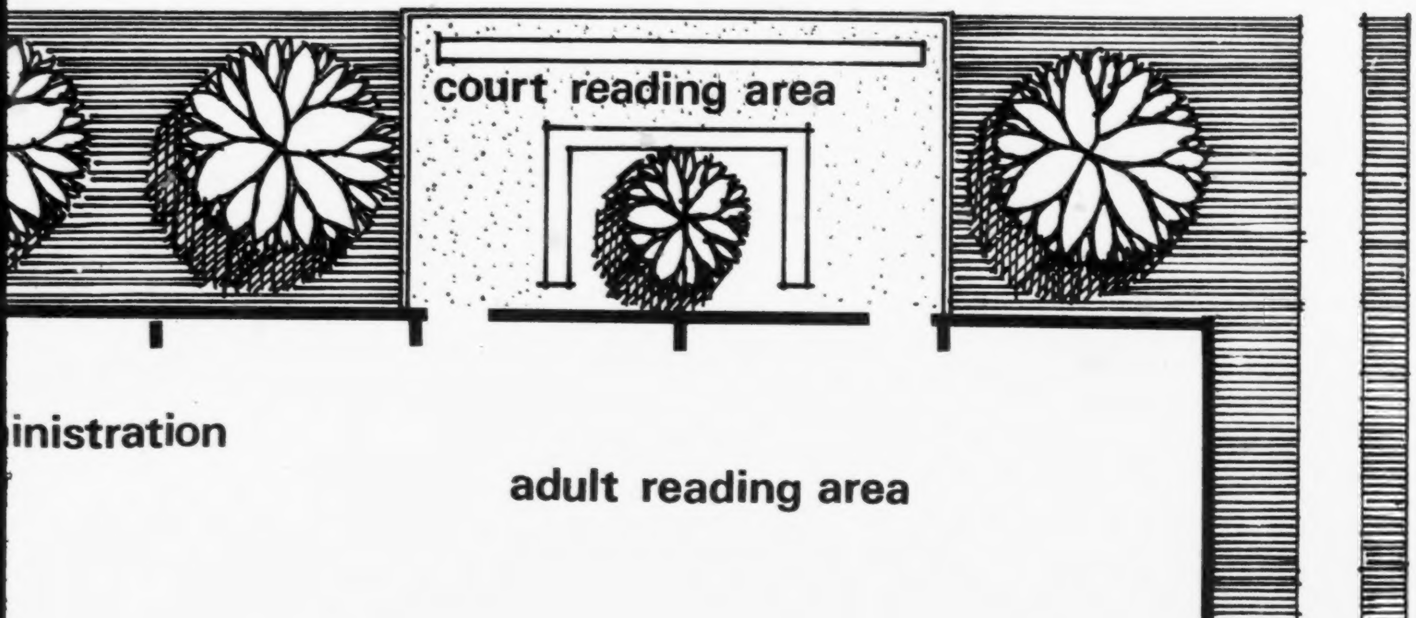
Book Stock:
One volume per capita. 25,000 volumes minimum (Collection should have variety, depth, adequate duplication, and currency).

Staff Size:
10 – 15 employees

Hours of Service:
48 – 60 hours per week



ILLUSTRATIVE SITE PLAN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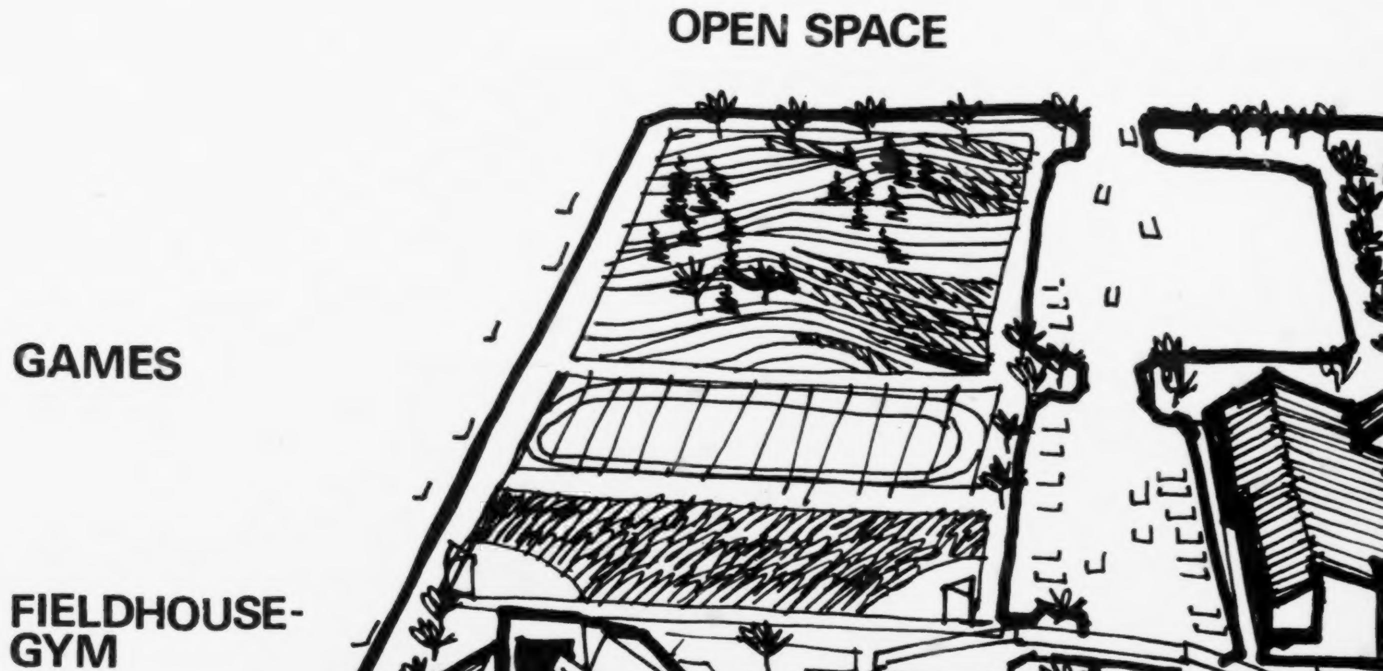
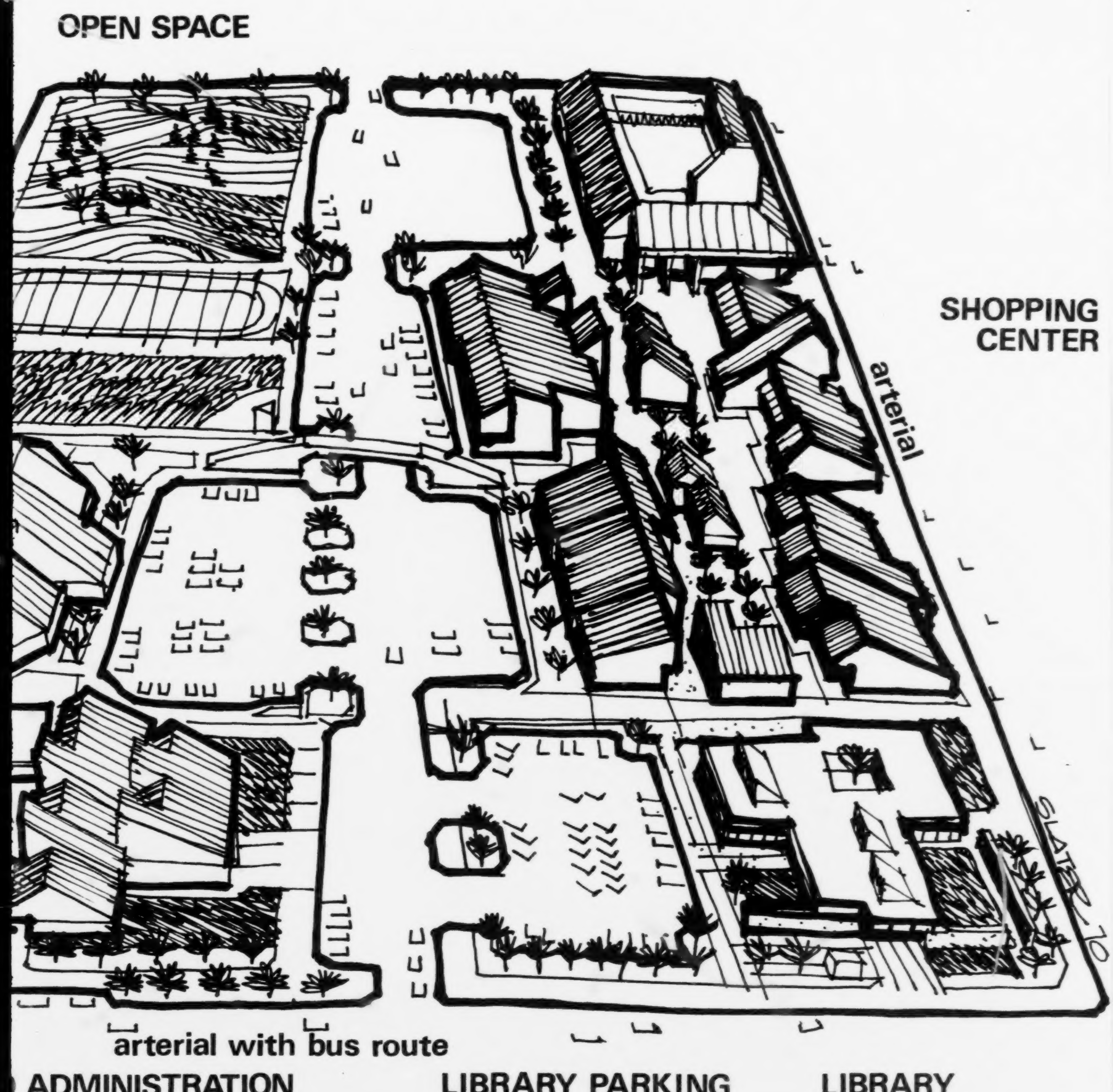
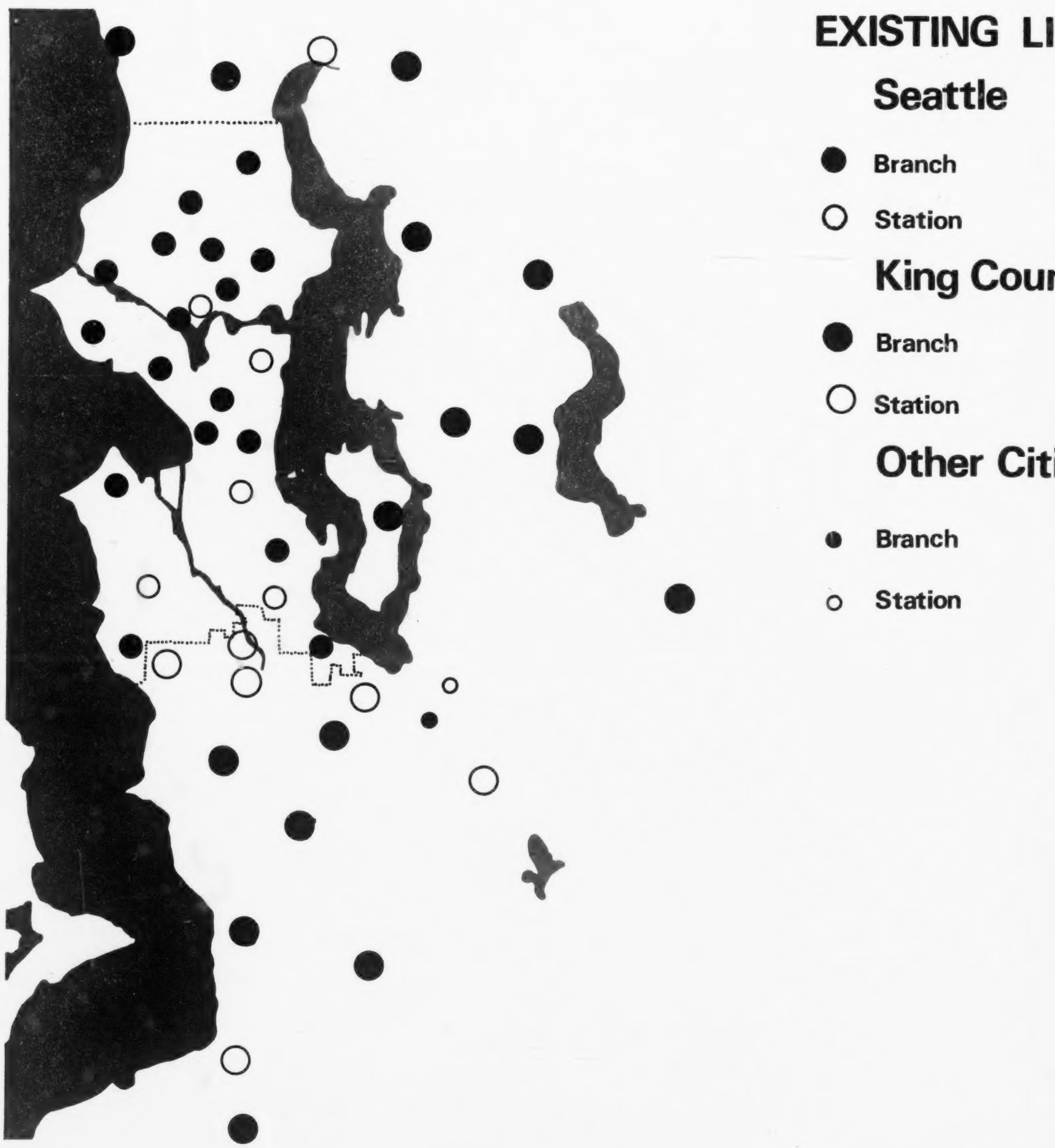


RELATIONSHIP OF LIBRARY TO SURRO



OF LIBRARY TO SURROUNDING FACILITIES

PRESENT LIBRARY SERVICE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EXISTING LIBRARY FACILITIES

Seattle

● **Branch**

○ **Station**

King County

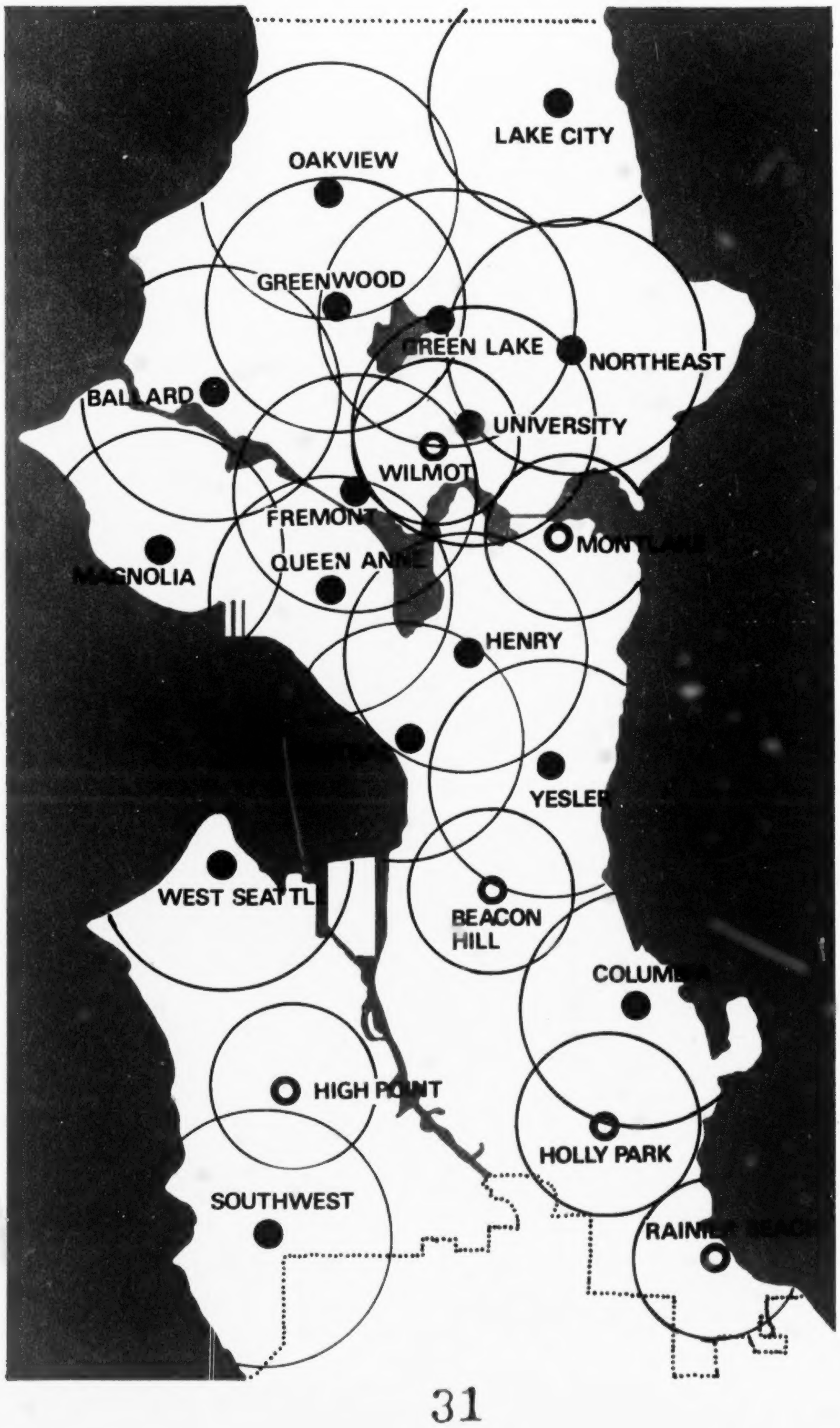
● **Branch**

○ **Station**

Other Cities

● **Branch**

○ **Station**

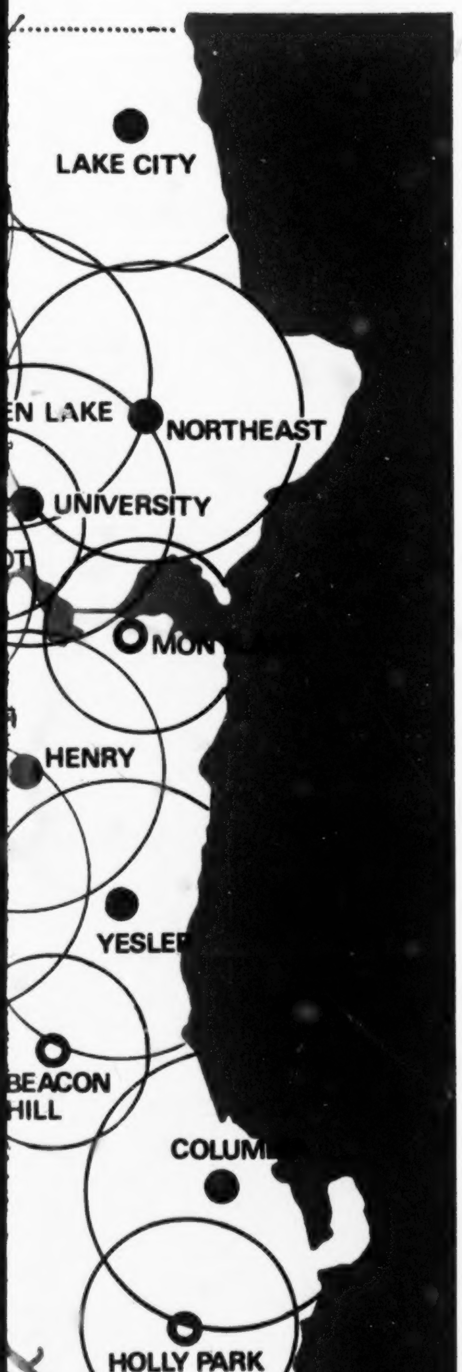


EXISTING LI

Theoretical service

● Branches - 1.5 m

○ Stations - 1 mile



EXISTING LIBRARIES

Theoretical service area

● Branches - 1.5 mile radius

○ Stations - 1 mile radius

Geographic Coverage Provided by Present Library System

The map on page 17 is a theoretical expression of idealistic service areas of branches and stations. The key word is idealistic and the reader should keep this in mind. For this map to become a valid representation of existing service areas two assumptions must be made: (1) that all branches and stations meet their respective minimum standards: in terms of size and service, and (2) topography and circulation routes are equal throughout the system.

With regard to Seattle, both of these assumptions are invalid. A brief look at the evaluation charts of branch and station libraries would point out the wide variation between the numerous libraries in terms of size and service capacity. Also, a drive around Seattle would quickly point out the marked differences in topography and population densities. There is a need, therefore, to portray existing library service on a more realistic basis.

The following map, page 19 shows existing library service based on six factors. Each library's service area was computed in terms of population, public transportation routes, street circulation patterns, book to population ratio of 1:1, topography, and suggested maximum driving time of five minutes.

Present Library

1. The new Central Library
   in 1960.

2. Fifteen branches located
   areas of the city.

3. Six library stations servin
   some distance from branch
   has not justified a full scal

4. One regional library for the
   capped, also serving the s
   of Seattle.

5. Municipal Reference Libra
   Building, giving reference
   administrative offices.

6. Two bookmobiles, one serv
   tion within the City tha
   library service area; the o
   and parochial schools des

7. One small library station
   Light employees and their

BRANCHES

Presuming that a branch libr
from an imaginary center of
(see page 17) it is readily
Seattle library users can dr
station in less than 6 minut
templated Broadview Branch
Rainier Beach Station with
full branch library service t
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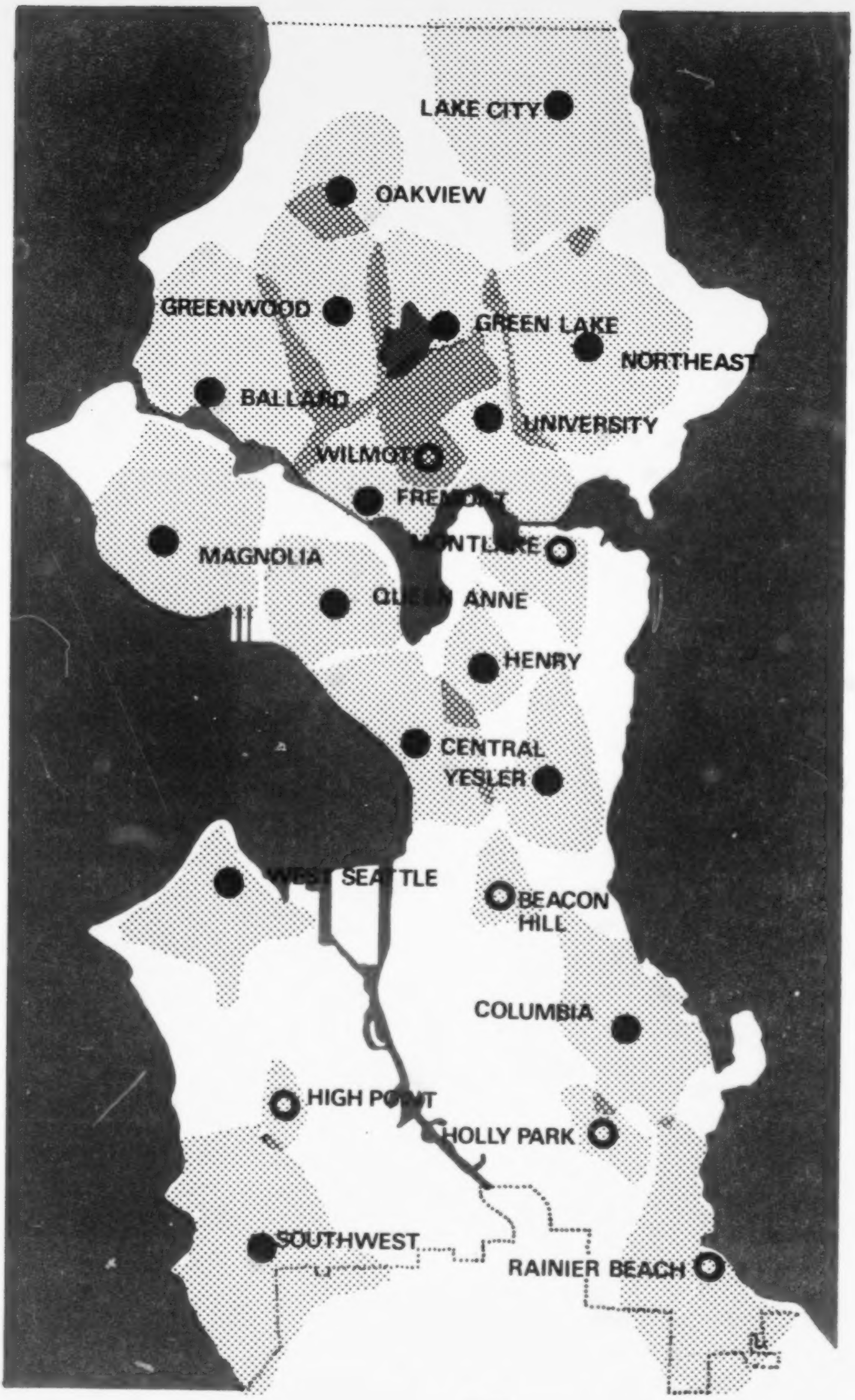
Present Library Service

1. The new Central Library of 196,969 sq. ft. completed in 1960.
2. Fifteen branches located in the established community areas of the city.
3. Six library stations serving those community areas at some distance from branches where population and use has not justified a full scale branch.
4. One regional library for the blind and physically handicapped, also serving the sightless children and citizens of Seattle.
5. Municipal Reference Library, located in the Municipal Building, giving reference service to the city and county administrative offices.
6. Two bookmobiles, one serving those pockets of population within the City that find themselves beyond a library service area; the other machine serving the grade and parochial schools described earlier in this report.
7. One small library station at Rockport serving 335 City Light employees and their families.

BRANCHES

Presuming that a branch library reaches out to its patrons from an imaginary center of a three mile diameter circle (see page 17) it is readily evident that the majority of Seattle library users can drive to their branch library or station in less than 6 minutes. The completion of the contemplated Broadview Branch, and the replacement of the Rainier Beach Station with a full-sized branch, will give full branch library service to two rapidly growing sections of the city.



EXISTIN

● Branch

○ Station

░ Service b

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NOTE: See page 18 fo

EXISTING LIBRARY SERVICE AREA

- ● Branch
- ○ Station
- ░ Service by one Library
- ▓ Service by more than one Library

NOTE: See page 18 for explanation of service area

STATIONS

A Seattle Library station is defined as a small collection of books (5,000 – 12,000), made available in rental quarters centrally located.

It is open to the public 16 – 36 hours per week, staffed by trained clerks, and administered from branch headquarters through periodic visits of adult and children's librarians. A progressively increasing circulation, coupled with a growing population which could sustain an annual circulation of at least 75,000 home loans per year would be justification for establishing a branch library.

BOOKMOBILE

The purpose of the bookmobile is to provide minimum library service to those areas of the city which are too sparsely populated to support a branch library or a station. In these areas, the bookmobile, with its great flexibility, its trained staff, its readily adaptable collection of books, can be pressed into immediate service not only into city annexed territories or a mushrooming neighborhood but also to nursing homes, to retirement homes, and to convalescent hospitals. It can be and is used to estimate the likelihood of success of a projected station or branch by testing several possible locations.

The "economics of Bookmobiles" suggest

(1) that they should have a capacity of 3,000 to 4,000 volumes.
(2) that they be planned to serve as many adults as children.
(3) that a trained clerk or a librarian be present at all bookmobile stops.
(4) that the bookmobile carry materials to render quick everyday reference service.

Community stops are most worthwhile in afternoons and evenings. Adherence to a regular schedule is a prime necessity and changes should be kept to a minimum. Favored locations are residential neighborhoods of average to high density, neighborhood store areas, and in some cases major shopping centers, housing projects or other pedestrian centers. Minimum acceptable circulation should be based upon lending a book per minute.

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While the Seattle Public Library policy excludes bookmobile stops from the service area of any branch, it is agreed that the book distribution services of bookmobiles can be used to advantage in supplementing a branch in areas cut off from it by heavy traffic, natural barriers or a lack of public transportation.

LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Reading materials for the blind and physically handicapped are provided by the United States government through the Library of Congress and are made available through regional libraries for the blind.

The Seattle Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped functions as a regional library, providing free library service to residents of the States of Washington and Alaska who are unable to use conventional print because of a visual or physical limitation, and also a talking book machine lending agency for these two states.

Book collections cover a wide range of subjects. Classics, modern novels, travel, biography, religion, philosophy, drama and the sciences are maintained and distributed to borrowers in either Braille or talking book form. An equally important part of the service is a selected list of magazines in both Braille and talking books which borrowers receive regularly as they request.

As a talking book machine agency it is the responsibility of the Library to provide each new applicant with a machine as well as supplying replacement reproducers whenever requested.

The following contractual agreements are in effect governing library service to the blind and physically handicapped of Washington, Alaska and Montana:

a. With the Washington State Library for Braille and talking book services to residents of Washington exclusive of Seattle.

b. With the Washington State Library for talking book machine distribution to residents of Washington.

c. With the State of Alaska, Division of State Libraries, for Braille and talking book library service to the residents of Alaska.

d. With the Montana State Library for library service to blind readers of Braille.

MUNICIPAL REFERENCE LIBRARY

This library serves the City of Seattle and King County employees. Its main function is to provide reference services for these employees and to keep them informed of new developments in the field of government administration.

Services include preparation and distribution of a weekly publication, "Recent Additions of Timely Interest", preparation of bibliographies, and interlibrary loans.

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Physical Characteristics of Branch and Station Libraries

The charts following on Pages 23 and 24 summarize the factors considered to be important in location, design and equipment of branch libraries. Page 27 portrays stations in a similar way, measured against a more abbreviated series of factors.

These charts are descriptive only. In a subsequent section (see Pages 31 through 32, a rating system of points has been applied to evaluate the physical attributes of each branch and station in the system.

Physical Characteristics of Branch Libraries

BRANCH LIBRARY	Date of Opening	Estimated Population in Service Area (1968)	Arterials	Public Transit	Shopping Area	Site Size (Sq. Ft.)
Standard		20,000 to 60,000	Within 1 block of 1 or 2 arterials	# of routes Within 1 block	In or immediately adjacent	16,000 to 40,000
Ballard 574 24th N.W.	1963	31,300	2	1	Immediately adjacent	20,000
Columbia 4721 Rainier	1915	36,900	2	1	Immediately adjacent	15,000
Fremont 731 N. 35th	1921	13,200	1	1	1 block distant	14,400
Green Lake 7364 Green Lk. Dr.	1910	28,000	1	1	Adjacent	20,050
Greenwood 8016 Greenwood N.	1954	28,900	1	1	Immediately adjacent	12,604
Henry 425 Harvard E.	1954	34,800	1	1	Adjacent	11,800
Lake City 12501 27th N.E.	1965	32,800	1	2	Adjacent	39,000
Magnolia 2801 34th N.	1964	20,400	1	1	2 long blocks distant	21,600

ch Libraries

ls	Public Transit	Shopping Area	Site Size (Sq. Ft.)	Building Area (Sq. Ft.)	Public Service Area – Main Floor Only	Parking	
1 of ls	# of routes Within 1 block	In or immediately adjacent	16,000 to 40,000	7,000 to 15,000		1 space per 250' of service area	
h	1	Immediately adjacent	20,000	7,900	7,020	Act. 20	Stan. 28
	1	Immediately adjacent	15,000	5,719	3,522	10	14
	1	1 block distant	14,400	6,154	3,213	0	13
	1	Adjacent	20,050	8,574	5,164	17	20
	1	Immediately adjacent	12,604	9,752	5,041	15	20
	1	Adjacent	11,800	5,424	5,424	5	21
	2	Adjacent	39,000	9,564	9,564	32	38
	1	2 long blocks distant	21,600	6,634	5,984	16	23

Landscaping	Outdoor Reading Area	Art Work on Building	Air Conditioning	Interior Lighting	Office Work Space	Meeting Room	Loading D & Serv. E
Vary according to nature of site	Desirable	Desirable	Desirable	At least 70′ candles	Excellent	Desirable	Should ope into work Room
Excellent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Minimal	Yes
Adequate	No	None	No	Yes	None	Yes-on floor below	No
Minimal	No	None	No	Adequate	None	No	No
Good	No	None	No	Yes	None	Yes-on floor below	No
Adequate	Yes	None	No	Yes	Adequate	Yes-in daylight bsmt.	Yes
Excellent	No	Yes	No	Yes	Minimal	No	Yes
Good	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	No	Yes
Good	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	No	Yes

Interior Lighting	Office Work Space	Meeting Room	Loading Dock & Serv. Ent	Level Front Entrance	View from St. into Bldg.	Hours open to Public
At least 70' candles	Excellent	Desirable	Should open into work Room	Essential	Desirable	60
Yes	Excellent	Minimal	Yes	Yes	Yes	40
Yes	None	Yes-on floor below	No	No	No	40
Adequate	None	No	No	Yes	Yes	40
Yes	None	Yes-on floor below	No	No	No	40
Yes	Adequate	Yes-in daylight bsmt.	Yes	Yes	Yes	40
Yes	Minimal	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	40
Yes	Excellent	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	40
Yes	Excellent	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	40

Physical Characteristics of Branch Libraries Continued

BRANCH LIBRARY	Date of Opening	Estimated Population in Service Area (1969)	Arterials	Public Transit	Shopping Area	Site Size (Sq. Ft.)
Standard		20,000 to 60,000	Within 1 block of 1 or 2 arterials	# of routes within 1 block	In or immediately adjacent	16,000 to 40,000
Northeast 6801 35th N.E.	1954	40,900	1	1	2 blocks distant	16,896
Oakview 525 N. 125th	1954	26,800	1	1	3 blocks distant	7,680
Queen Anne 400 W. Garfield	1914	32,200		1	Several blocks	14,400
Southwest 9015 35th S.W.	1961	38,300	2	1	store across street	21,600
University 5009 Roosevelt	1910	27,200	2	1	Adjacent	28,800
West Seattle 2306 42nd S.W.	1910	28,900	2	2	Immediately adjacent	20,815
Yesler 23rd & Yesler	1914	38,100	2	1	Adjacent	30,000
Library for the Blind 425 Harvard East	1954	N/A	1	1	Adjacent	11,800

Branch Libraries Continued

Arterials	Public Transit	Shopping Area	Site Size (Sq. Ft.)	Bldg. Area (Sq. Ft.)	Public Service Area – Main Floor Only	Parking	
Within 1 block of 1 or 2 arterials	# of routes within 1 block	In or immediately adjacent	16,000 to 40,000	7,000 to 15,000		1 space per 250 ft. of service area	
1	1	2 blocks distant	16,896	7,657	7,249	Act. 12	Stan. 24
1	1	3 blocks distant	7,680	1,025	1,025	12	4
	1	Several blocks	14,400	6,821	4,328	0	17
2	1	store across street	21,600	7,847	7,087	21	28
2	1	Adjacent	28,800	8,323	4,976	12	19
2	2	Immediately adjacent	20,815	9,815	4,988	12	19
2	1	Adjacent	30,000	7,683	5,565	0	20
1	1	Adjacent	11,800	5,424	5,424	0	20

Landscaping	Outdoor Reading Area	Art Work on Building	Air Conditioning	Interior Lighting	Office Work Space	Meeting Room	Loading Doc & Service Entrance
Vary according to nature of site	Desirable	Desirable	Desirable	At least 70' candles	Excellent	Desirable	Should open into Work Room
Good	Yes	None	No	Yes	Minimal	Yes	Yes
Minimal	No	None	No	Adequate	None	No	No
Adequate	No	None	No	Adequate	None	Yes	No
Excellent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excellent	Yes	Yes
Adequate	No	None	No	Yes	None	Yes	No
Minimal	No	None	No	Yes	None	Yes	No
Minimal	No	None	No	Yes	None	Yes	No
Excellent	N/A	None	No	Yes	Inadequate	Floor below N/A	Yes

Interior Lighting	Office Work Space	Meeting Room	Loading Dock & Service Entrance	Level Front Entrance	View from St. into Building	Hours open to Public
At least 70' candles	Excellent	Desirable	Should open into Work Room	Essential	Desirable	60
Yes	Minimal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	40
Adequate	None	No	No	Yes	No	29
Adequate	None	Yes	No	No	No	40
Yes	Excellent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	40
Yes	None	Yes	No	No	No	40
Yes	None	Yes	No	No	No	40
Yes	None	Yes	No	No	No	40
Yes	Inadequate	Floor below N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	40

Physical Characteristics of Branch and Station Li

STATION LIBRARY	Date of Opening	Arterials	Public Transit	Shopping Area	Building Area	Parking		Air Cond.	Interior Lighting
Standard		Within 1 block of 1 or 2 arterials	Within 1 block	In or immediately adj.	1500 to 3500 sq. ft.	1 space per 250′ of service		Desirable	70′ candles
						Act.	Stan.		
Beacon Hill 2519 15th S.	1945	2	1	In	3042	0	12	No	Yes
High Point 6338 32nd S.W.	1942	1	No	Several blocks distant	759	0	3	No	Adequate
Holly Park 7001 32nd S.	1943	No	1	Some distance	648	0	2	No	Inadequate
Montlake 2304 24th E.	1944	1	1	In	1377	0	5	No	Inadequate
Rainier Beach 9250 57th S.	1966	0	1	In	2160	0	8	No	Yes
Wilmot 4422 Meridian N.	1949	1	1	Within 1/2 block	1500	0	6	No	Adequate

Branch and Station Libraries

Building Area	Parking		Air Cond.	Interior Lighting	Office Work Space	Level Entrance	View from St. into Bldg.	Prominent Sign
1500 to 3500 sq. ft.	1 space per 250′ of service		Desirable	70′ candles	Essential	Essential	Desirable	Essential
	Act.	Stan.						
3042	0	12	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
759	0	3	No	Adequate	None	No	No	Yes
648	0	2	No	Inadequate	Inadequate	No	No	Yes
1377	0	5	No	Inadequate	Inadequate	Yes	Yes	Inadequate
2160	0	8	No	Yes	Inadequate	Yes	Yes	Yes
1500	0	6	No	Adequate	Yes	No	No	Inadequate

EVALUATION OF EXISTING SEATTLE LIBRARY SYSTEM

In the broadest term
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PHYSICAL FACILITIES
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In the broadest terms, Seattle has at present an admirable network of libraries serving many different kinds of patrons. Fairly recent population growth at a greater than expected rate – especially in the northwest and southeast parts of the City – has created a great need for branch library service in those areas inadequately served at present by existing branches or stations. The need for additional space has made the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped increasingly obsolete. Beyond these obvious needs for capital investment, however, are some more subtle needs which are just as real and important. Solutions to these needs are essential to distribute efficiently the available funds and meet the public objectives of the library system.

PHYSICAL FACILITIES

As the following table indicates, four of Seattle's branch libraries are considered to be housed in physical facilities and locations classified as excellent. Four branches and two stations are in the "good" category, five branches and two stations are in the "adequate" category and two branches and two stations are in the "poor" category. The scale on which they were rated is described in the appendix to this report.

The conclusions of these ratings indicate that one branch and one station should be discontinued because they wastefully duplicate the service provided by a nearby branch. Certain other branches should be upgraded so that their location, size and internal improvements come into line with the demands imposed by the population living within their service areas. Included in this category of improvement would be the gradual conversion of station library service to a full branch facility in at least one instance.

SERVICE AND OPERATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

According to a rating system devised for this report and explained on Pages 65 – 67 four branches are considered to be "excellent"; seven branches are considered "good"; two branches are considered "adequate" and two branches are classified as "poor". Because of their limited nature no attempt was made to measure station service. In some ways these results are related to the physical facilities described previously. In others, there are some changes which could be made to expand the particular branch libraries' use by changes in the operation of the facilities, such as increased hours of operation, larger staffs, and increased book stock.

Most notable reflections of a library's impact on a community are its total circulation figures and the use of its reference collection. These figures seem to relate strongly to the educational and age structure of the population in the library's area of influence. (Physical qualities of the library being held constant.) Further, the number of books available for patrons to choose from also seems to vitally affect the turnover of books. Hours of operation would certainly show some correlation, for a slight improvement in this category would increase library patronage by a significant amount.

Investment in either physical plant or operational budget, if they generate much additional usage, can be considered to generate disproportionatedly high returns. Besides the intangible benefits of leisure time usage for all people in a library's area, the capital investment in the facility itself would yield a much more favorable "return". Like a school which lies idle during non-school hours, an under-used library literally wastes a sizeable public expenditure.

Evaluation of Branch Library Physical Facilities *

	LOCATION					
	Arterial	Shopping	Visibility	Bus Route	Sub-Total Location	Building Size
Standard	10	7	5	8	30	15
Ballard	10	5	5	5	25	15
Lake City	10	3	5	5	23	15
Southwest	10	1	5	3	19	13
Magnolia	10	0	5	5	20	14
Greenwood	10	5	5	5	25	15
Northeast	10	0	5	5	20	11
University	10	3	5	5	23	15
Greenlake	10	1	5	5	21	15
Columbia	10	5	5	5	25	8
Yesler	10	1	5	8	24	11
Henry	5	3	3	3	14	7
West Seattle	5	5	0	3	13	15
Fremont	10	0	3	5	18	15
Queen Anne	5	0	0	3	8	10
Oakview	0	0	3	0	3	-1

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* For explanation of Point Rating System, see Appendix B.

y Physical Facilities *

LOCATION							
Bus Route	Sub-Total Location	Building Size	Site Size	Sub-Total Site	Parking	Land-Scaping	Condition
8	30	15	10	25	10	3	5
5	25	15	7	22	7	3	5
5	23	15	10	25	8	2	5
3	19	13	8	21	7	3	5
5	20	14	9	23	7	2	5
5	25	15	1	16	7	1	5
5	20	11	5	16	5	3	5
5	23	15	10	25	6	1	2
5	21	15	6	21	8	3	4
5	25	8	7	15	7	1	4
8	24	11	10	21	0	0	4
3	14	7	3	10	2	3	5
3	13	15	6	21	6	0	2
5	18	15	5	20	0	0	2
3	8	10	4	14	0	1	2
0	3	-1	6	5	10	0	1

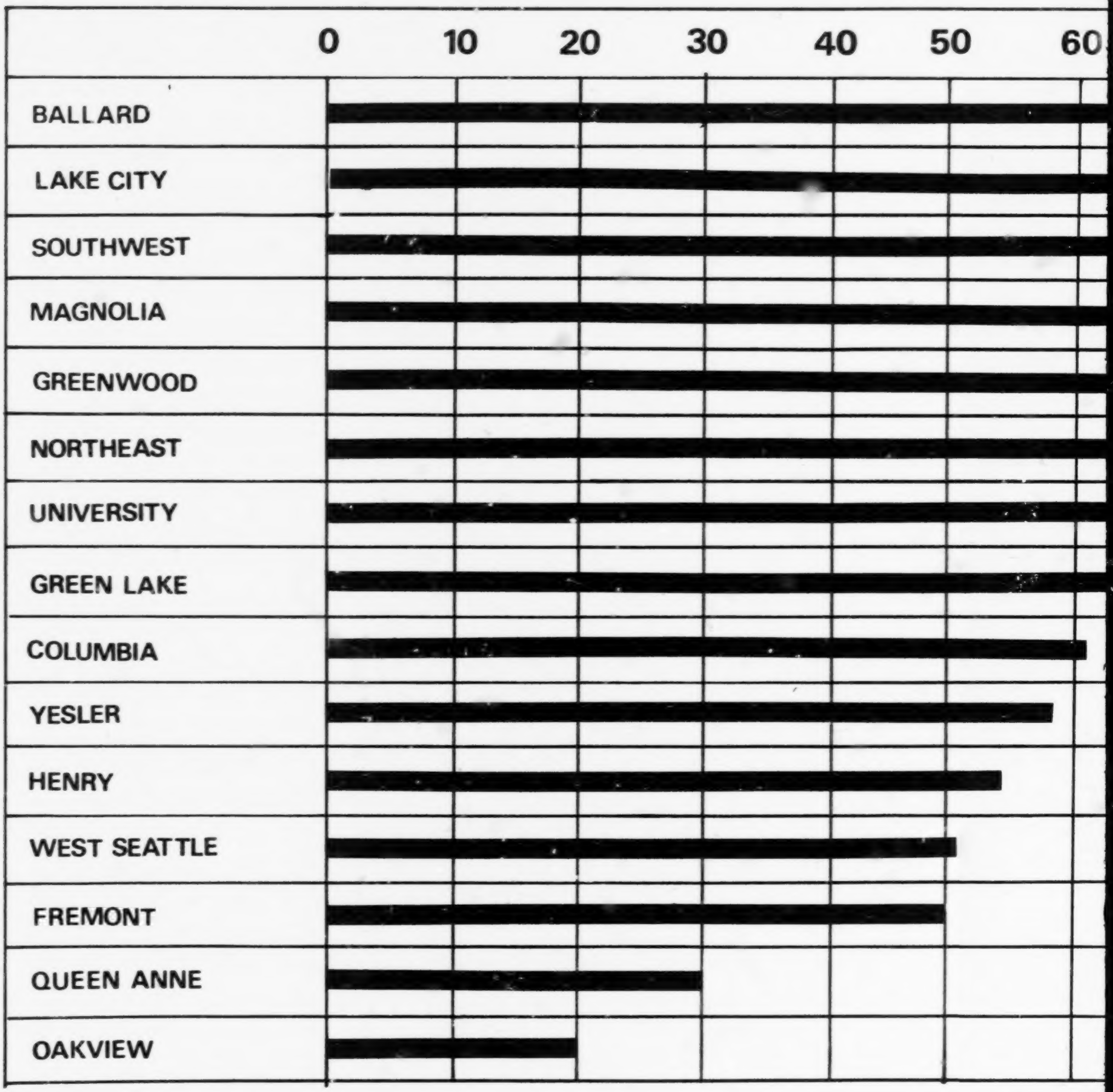
BUILDING DETAILS

Air Conditioning	Lighting	Meeting Room	Sub Total Building Details	Office Work Space	Loading Dock	Level Entrance
2	5	4	29	6	2	5
2	5	4	26	6	2	5
2	5	0	22	6	2	5
2	5	4	26	6	2	5
2	5	0	21	6	2	5
0	3	4	20	3	2	5
0	5	4	22	3	2	5
0	5	4	18	0	0	0
0	5	4	24	0	0	0
0	5	4	21	0	0	0
0	5	4	13	0	0	0
0	3	4	17	3	2	5
0	5	4	17	0	0	0
0	1	4	7	0	0	5
0	1	4	8	0	0	0
0	1	0	12	0	0	0

BUILDING DETAILS

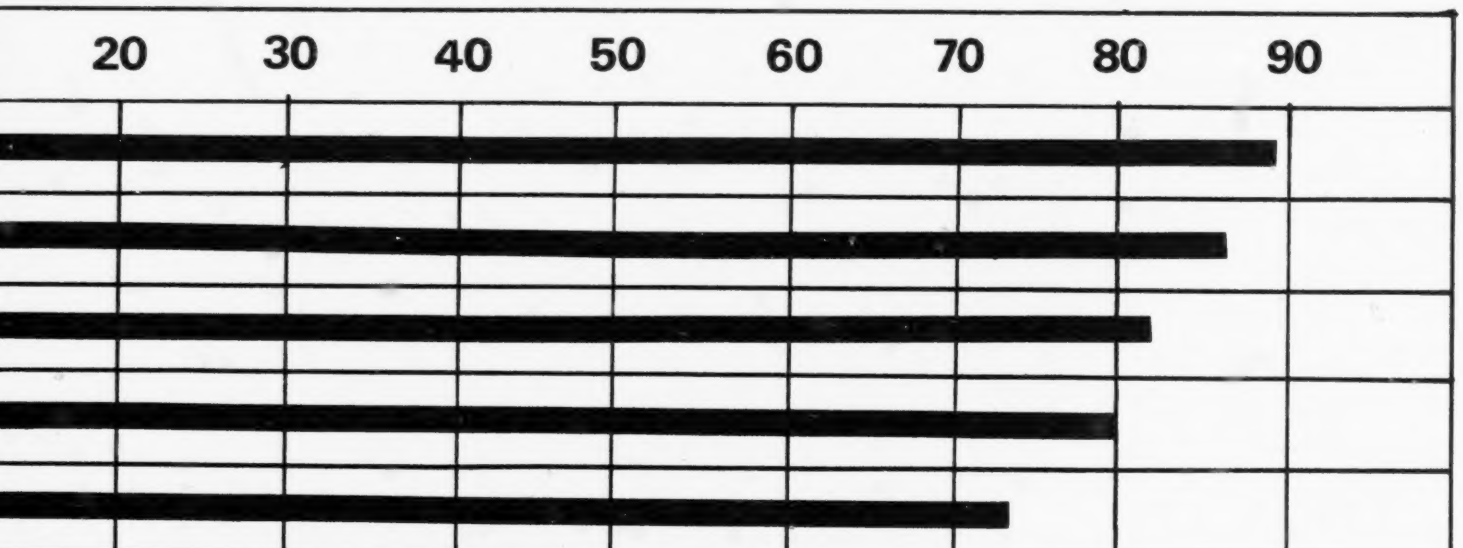
Office Work Space	Loading Dock	Level Entrance	View into Building	Sub Total Misc.	GRAND TOTAL
6	2	5	3	16	100
6	2	5	3	16	89
6	2	5	3	16	86
6	2	5	3	16	82
6	2	5	3	16	80
3	2	5	1	12	75
3	2	5	1	11	67
0	0	0	0	0	66
0	0	0	0	0	65
0	0	0	0	0	61
0	0	0	0	0	58
3	2	5	3	13	54
0	0	0	0	0	51
0	0	5	0	5	50
0	0	0	0	0	30
0	0	0	0	0	20

COMPARATIVE EVALUATION OF BRANC



* Based upon points assigned to physical facilities in preceeding table.

VALUATION OF BRANCH LIBRARIES*



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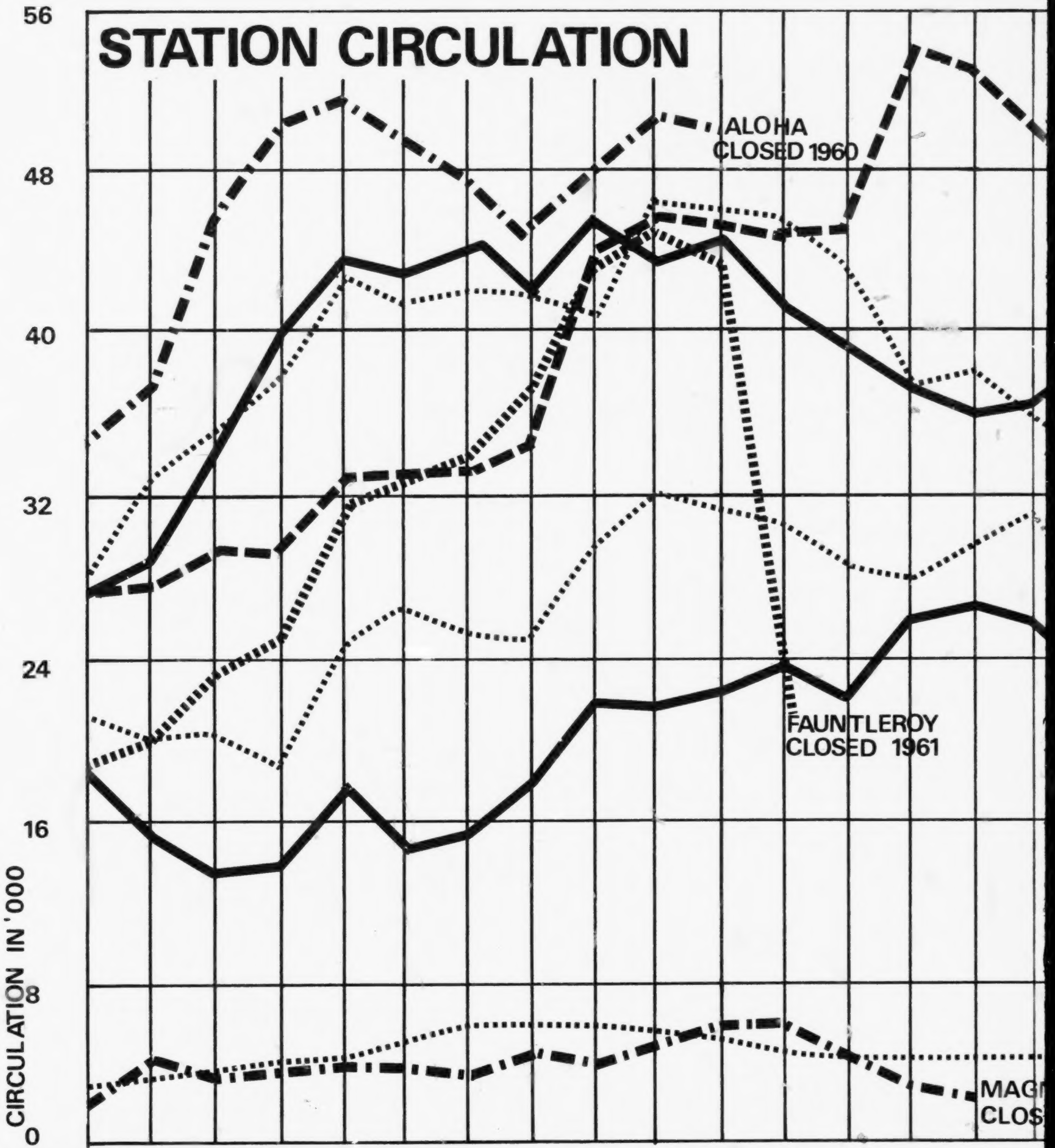
STATION CIRCULATION
56
48
40
32
24
16
8
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CIRCULATION IN '000
ALOHA
CLOSED 1960
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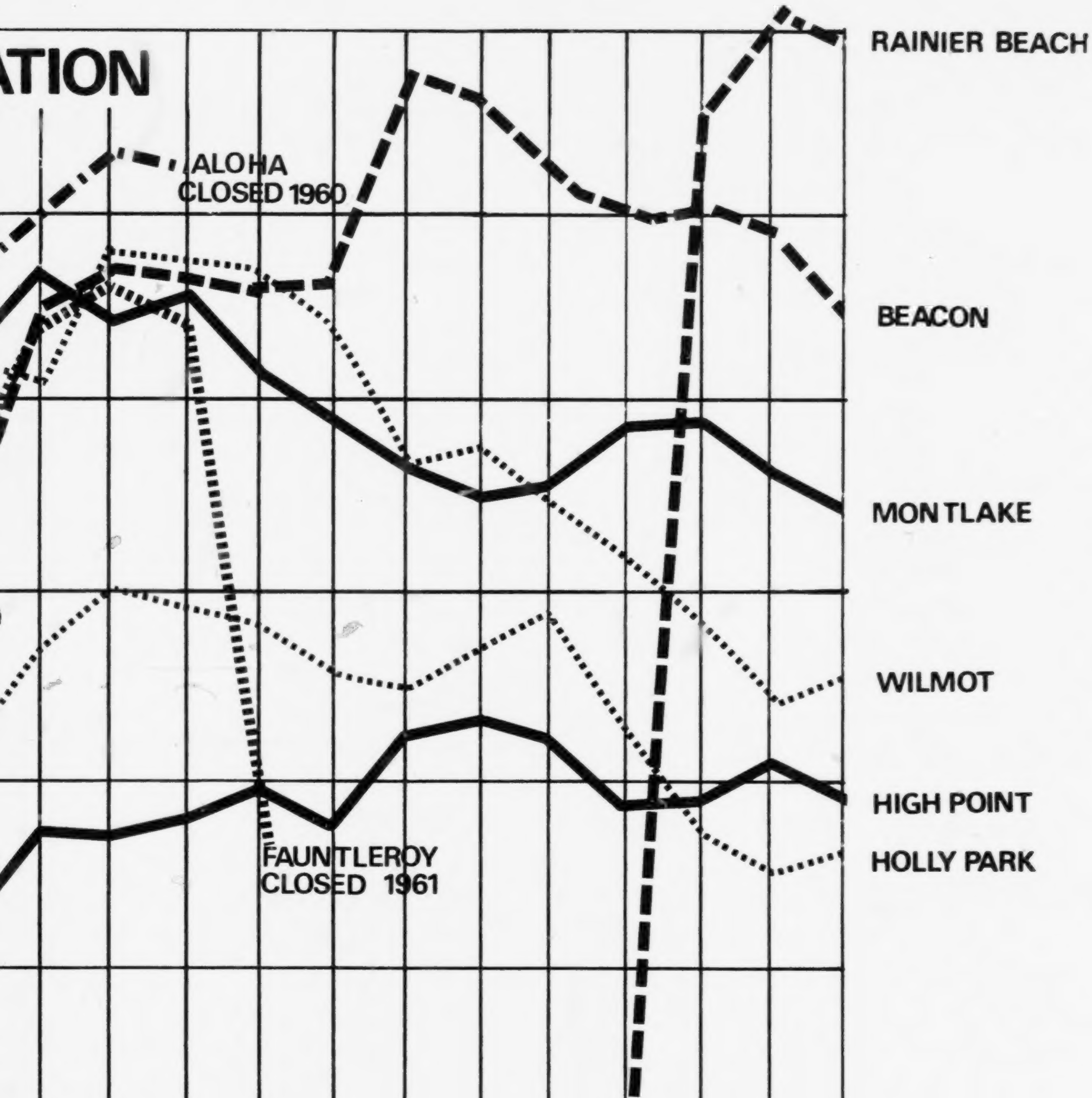
ATION
ALOHA
CLOSED 1960
FAUNTLEROY
CLOSED 1961
MAGNOLIA MANOR
CLOSED 1964
RAINIER BEACH
BEACON
MONTLAKE
WILMOT
HIGH POINT
HOLLY PARK
SKAGIT
58
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68

Evaluation of Station Library Physical Facilities *

	Arterial	Shopping	View into Bldg.	Bus Route	Sub Total Location	Building Size	Parking	Condition	Lighting	Air Con-dition	Office Work Space	Level Entranc
STANDARD	13	15	5	10	43	15	10	5	7	3	7	5
BEACON HILL	10	10	5	8	36	15	0	4	7	0	7	5
RAINIER BEACH	5	10	5	10	30	12	0	5	7	0	5	5
MONTLAKE	10	5	5	8	28	10	0	1	2	0	5	5
WILMOT	5	7	0	8	20	15	0	4	4	0	7	0
HOLLY PARK	0	0	0	8	8	2	0	2	2	0	5	0
HIGH POINT	5	0	0	0	5	3	0	2	4	0	7	5

---

* For explanation of Point Rating System, see Appendix B.

Library Physical Facilities *

Sub Total Location	Building Size	Parking	Condition	Lighting	Air Condition	Office Work Space	Level Entrance	Sign	Building Details Sub Total	GRAND TOTAL
43	15	10	5	7	3	7	5	5	32	100
36	15	0	4	7	0	7	5	5	23	76
30	12	0	5	7	0	5	5	5	27	69
28	10	0	1	2	0	5	5	3	16	54
20	15	0	4	4	0	7	0	3	18	53
8	2	0	2	2	0	5	0	5	9	24
5	3	0	2	4	0	7	5	0	11	19

DIX B,

IMPLICATIONS OF EVALUATION

The foregoing tables and maps begin to reveal some association between successful branch library operation and the physical facilities provided. However, the evidence shows that some branches with very comparable physical characteristics differ dramatically in the usage the public actually gets from them. Some of these contrasts will be illustrated in the following passage.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

A branch library building's location, size, design, and book stock are of major importance to its successful operation. The books must be adequate in number and quality to generate a high level of use. However, using the standards set forth in this report, not all the successful branches rate highly in this whole range of physical characteristics. On the other hand, some of the least successful branches do rate quite highly. This suggests that some poor physical qualities can be offset by others of a non-physical nature.

Interesting examples of this compensation effect may be discovered in the contrast between three branches, Northeast, Lake City and University. They are three of the most successful ones in terms of "circulation per capita", (See Page 39).The Lake City branch comes closest to meeting all the physical standards of location, design and book stock. Nevertheless, the University and Northeast branches "perform" somewhat better than the Lake City branch even though located further from any concentration of shopping (especially a large concentration such as Lake City's). The Northeast branch also lacks exposure to other related attractions of activity, which Lake City enjoys in its proximity to a community center. The fact that both branches attain the same general performance level suggests that some compensation process must indeed occur.

Another aspect of this same
the performance of the Yes
retically superior to that o
located closer to a larger-s
traveled arterial. Its book s
the local interest in literatu
built on an ample-sized s
floor space. Yet it suffers o
capita of any of the branche

REASONS FOR POOR BRANC

The poor or mediocre perfor
culation per capita of branc
and Fremont coincide with
Chief among these seem to
tion levels, predominance
nance of home ownership.
of these factors are lower
serving such an area is not

IMPLICATIONS OF PHYSICAL FOR OVERALL EVALUATION

In some of the instances me
the evaluation tables, inves
correct the under-utilizatio
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off-street parking spaces
building interior, or even re
in a better location with r

In other instances, however,
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economic features of the
usage. In such cases, inves
new approaches to operatio
proaches might include expa
greater promotional efforts
attempts to draw educatio
activities into the same bui
self. More complete analysis
community is necessary to
ational approach.

reveal some asso-
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the evidence shows
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the public actually
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characteristics. On
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closest to meeting
, design and book
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to other related at-
joys in its proximity
branches attain the
s that some compen-

Another aspect of this same phenomenon can be observed in the performance of the Yesler branch. Its location is theoretically superior to that of the Northeast branch as it is located closer to a larger-scale shopping area on a heavily-traveled arterial. Its book stock is carefully directed toward the local interest in literature covering minority races. It is built on an ample-sized site and is adequate in interior floor space. Yet it suffers one of the lowest circulations per capita of any of the branches.

REASONS FOR POOR BRANCH PERFORMANCE

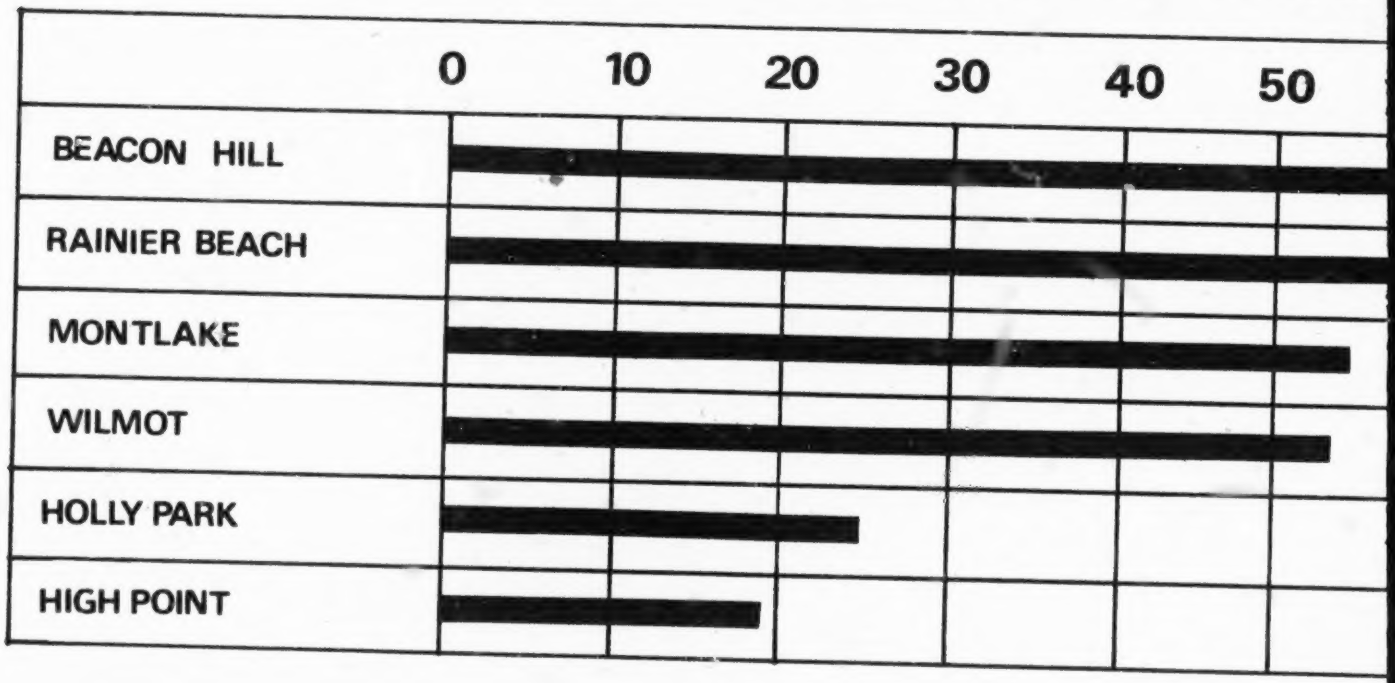
The poor or mediocre performance measured in terms of circulation per capita of branches such as Yesler, Queen Anne and Fremont coincide with certain socio-economic patterns. Chief among these seem to be median family income, education levels, predominance of growing families and predominance of home ownership. Generally speaking, where most of these factors are lower than average, the branch library serving such an area is not well utilized.

IMPLICATIONS OF PHYSICAL AND NON-PHYSICAL FACTORS FOR OVERALL EVALUATION

In some of the instances mentioned above, and detailed in the evaluation tables, investment in physical changes will correct the under-utilization of library branches. These kinds of changes may range all the way from development of off-street parking spaces to major remodelling of the building interior, or even replacement of certain buildings in a better location with respect to their service areas.

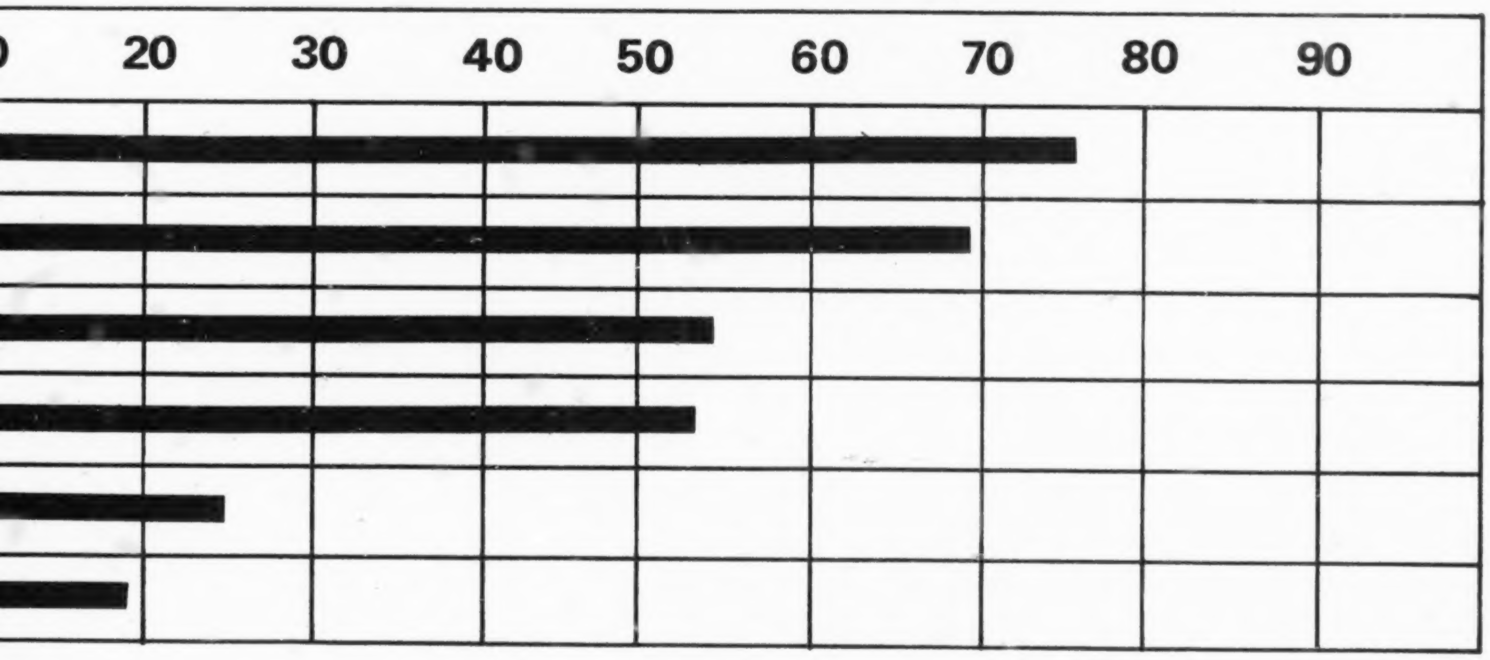
In other instances, however, the locations and basic buildings are to all appearances adequate, but the socio-economic features of the service area depress library usage. In such cases, investment emphasis should be upon new approaches to operation of the branches. These approaches might include expansion of the hours of service, greater promotional efforts within the community, and attempts to draw educationally – and leisure-oriented activities into the same building or area as the library itself. More complete analysis of the particular needs of each community is necessary to design such a change in operational approach.

COMPARATIVE EVALUATION OF STAT



* Based upon points assigned in preceding table

VALUATION OF STATION LIBRARIES*



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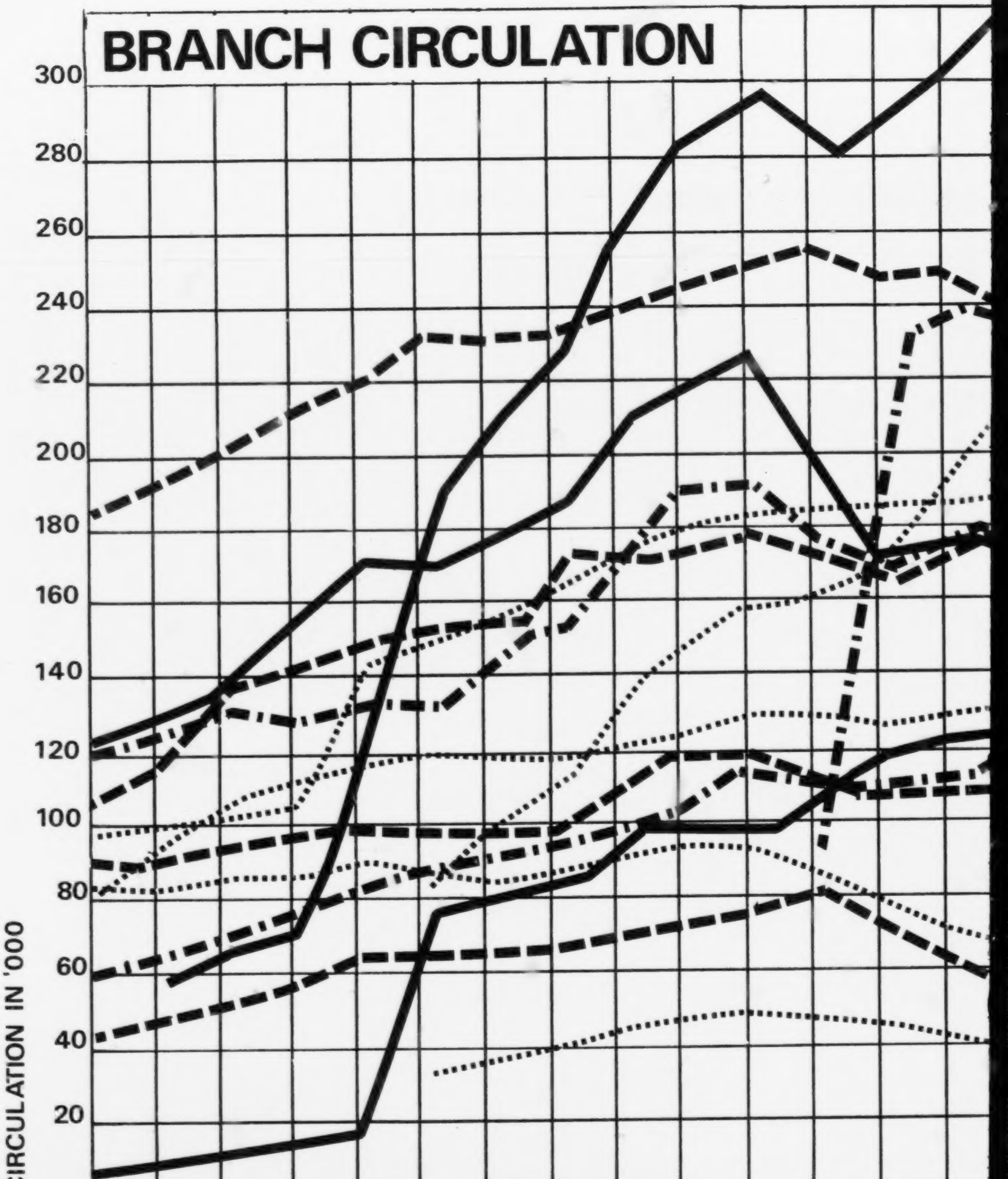

BRANCH CIRCULATION
CIRCULATION IN '000
300
280
260
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220
200
180
160
140
120
100
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YEARS 50
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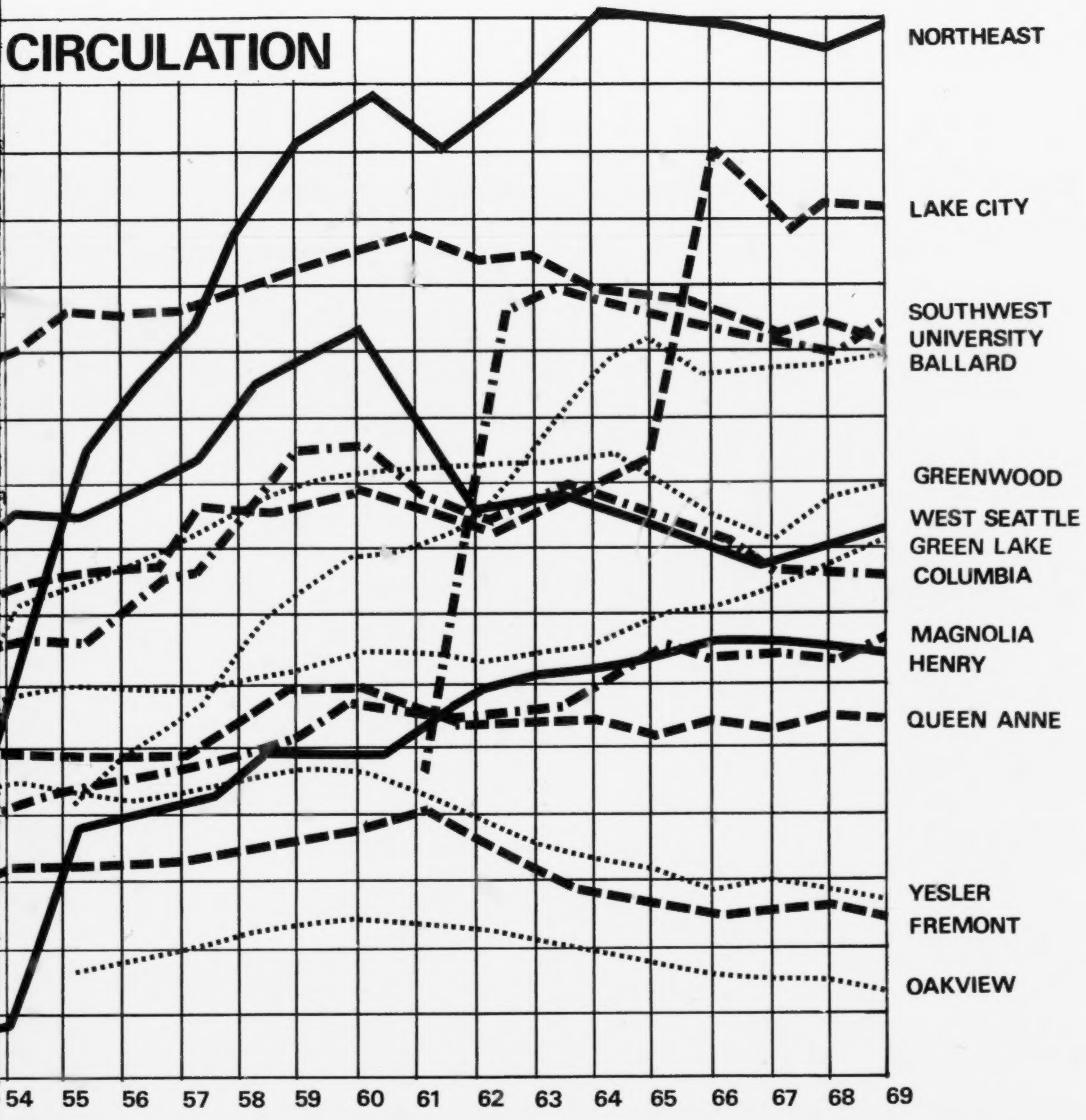
CIRCULATION
NORTHEAST
LAKE CITY
SOUTHWEST
UNIVERSITY
BALLARD
GREENWOOD
WEST SEATTLE
GREEN LAKE
COLUMBIA
MAGNOLIA
HENRY
QUEEN ANNE
YESLER
FREMONT
OAKVIEW
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Branch Service Characteristics

NAME	Book Stock	Circulation	Staff	Hours	Total
Standard	25000 – 50000 (Based on volume per capita)	Min. circulation 100,000 and "high" circ. per capita	1 staff/ 25,000 circ.	48 hrs./ week	
Points * (Maximum)	25	25	25	25	100
Lake City	25	22	24	17	88
Magnolia	25	20	25	17	87
University	25	20	25	17	87
West Seattle	25	20	25	17	87
Northeast	23	24	20	17	84
Ballard	25	20	21	17	83
Greenwood	25	20	20	17	82
Queen Anne	20	20	25	17	82
Columbia	18	21	25	17	81
Southwest	21	22	21	17	81
Green Lake	24	20	19	17	80
Henry	18	21	23	17	79
Fremont	25	11	25	17	78
Yesler	14	13	25	17	69
Oakview	11	8	25	12	56

* The figures shown in these columns represent only the relative ranking of the service characteristics indicated. Explanation of the point system is presented in Appendix B, pages 65 – 70.

A SUMMARY OF EXISTING DEFICIENCIES IN BRANCH LIBRARIES

In evaluating the 15 branches and 6 stations in accordance with standards outlined in the previous section of this report, it is apparent that deficiencies in varying degrees exist in every branch.

Some of these deficiencies are due to the age of the buildings. One branch is 48 years old, six are over 50 years old. Budget restrictions, site availability, the development of new technology and new patterns of service contribute to inadequacy of the others. While a capital improvements evaluation plan must deal primarily with physical plants, it is a fact that the condition of the building alone does not determine the success or failure of a branch library. In addition to this, circulation statistics do not tell the complete story. It is unjust and a misrepresentation of the true picture to brand a branch a complete failure simply because its circulation figures are low.

However, insofar as physical factors contribute to the success of a branch library program, they should be upgraded as closely to standard as possible. The following is a list of deficiencies, some of which can be corrected by a long range Capital Improvement Program.

Deficiencie

LOCATION

(a) Oakview Branch
Within service a
tant from Broad
there.

(b) Wilmot Station
Within the servi
Branches.

(c) Queen Anne
Built in 1914, is
arterials and bus

(d) West Seattle
Although within
and adjacent to
provide effectiv
Southwest Bran
peninsula.

(e) Fremont
The surrounding
almost entirely
middle of the bl
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simply because

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should be up-
The following is
e corrected by a

Deficiencies

LOCATION

(a) Oakview Branch

Within service area of the Greenwood Branch. Too distant from Broadview area for effective library service there.

(b) Wilmot Station

Within the service area of the University and Fremont Branches.

(c) Queen Anne

Built in 1914, is some distance removed from shopping, arterials and bus routes.

(d) West Seattle

Although within one block of arterials and bus routes, and adjacent to shopping, it is located too far north to provide effective library service together with the Southwest Branch, to the whole of West Seattle peninsula.

(e) Fremont

The surrounding area, formerly residential, now devoted almost entirely to light industry. Branch located in middle of the block on a quiet side street at some distance from shopping.

BUILDINGS

(a) Library for the Blind needs 75% – 100% more space than is in the basement of the Henry Branch. Expansion of program to include the handicapped makes the need for additional space urgent.

(b) Columbia Branch Library needs to be enlarged by 100 – 150% to meet service demands of the area.

(c) Montlake Station – occupies substandard space in a run-down building. New quarters desperately needed.

(d) Bookmobile Headquarters now occupies remodeled space in the basement of the Green Lake Library Branch which offers acceptable quarters on an interim basis. A new building or the basement of the Henry Branch presently occupied by the Library for the Blind is the long range solution.

(e) Central Library, completed in 1960, was designed to accommodate three additional floors for expansion. Present use indicates that this additional space will be needed within the next ten years by 1979.

LEVEL ENTRANCE

West Seattle, Green Lake, Yesler, Columbia, University, Queen Anne, and Wilmot Station – steps in varying heights, widths and numbers appear at the outside and in some of the inside entrances. The condition relates to former architectural style of public buildings. It would be costly and difficult to provide the level entrances which are desired features of modern branch libraries.

OFFICE WORK SPACE

West Seattle, Green Lake, Yesler, Columbia, University, Queen Anne, and Wilmot Station – due to a different concept of library service in the early part of the century which did not include mechanical charging, nor the use of telephones and typewriters, no need for office work space existed and none was provided. The librarian's office and space enclosed by a 3 or 4 sided circulation desk sufficed under those earlier conditions, but obstruct efficiency of service with present-day equipment. Providing such space to today's standards in these early libraries would involve major remodelling and expansion at substantial costs.

PARKING

No off street parking
Below 50% of standard
Above 50% of standard
Above standard
Different parking requireme
present site restrictions cont

AMOU

BRANCH	NUMBER O CAR SPAC DEFICIEN
Ballard	8
Greenwood	5
Henry	16
Lake City	6
Magnolia	7
Northeast	12
Southwest	7
University	7
West Seattle	7
Yesler	20
Columbia	4
Fremont	13
Green Lake	3
Queen Anne	17

– 100% more space than
y Branch. Expansion of
ped makes the need for

o be enlarged by 100 –
the area.
ubstandard space in a
s desperately needed.
occupies remodeled
een Lake Library Branch
on an interim basis. A
the Henry Branch pre-
or the Blind is the long

1960, was designed to
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by 1979.

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on – steps in varying
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of public buildings. It
o provide the level en-
tures of modern branch

r, Columbia, University,
on – due to a different
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anical charging, nor the
ters, no need for office
e was provided. The
losed by a 3 or 4 sided
those earlier conditions,
rvice with present-day
ce to today's standards
volve major remodelling
sts.

PARKING

No off street parking	4 branches
Below 50% of standard	1 branch
Above 50% of standard	10 branches
Above standard	1 branch

Different parking requirements of an earlier period, and present site restrictions contribute to this deficiency.

AMOUNT BELOW RECOMMENDED STANDARDS

BRANCH	NUMBER OF CAR SPACES DEFICIENT	DEFICIENT SQUARE FOOTAGE (at 300 sq. ft. per auto)
Ballard	8	2400
Greenwood	5	1500
Henry	16	4800
Lake City	6	1800
Magnolia	7	2100
Northeast	12	3600
Southwest	7	2100
University	7	2100
West Seattle	7	2100
Yesler	20	6000
Columbia	4	1200
Fremont	13	3900
Green Lake	3	900
Queen Anne	17	5100

SERVICE

(a) A rapidly increasing use of a library station which eventually outstrips its resources in space, staff and services, is solved by the establishment of a full fledged branch library. Present trends indicate Rainier Beach Station will reach such a situation within three or four years.

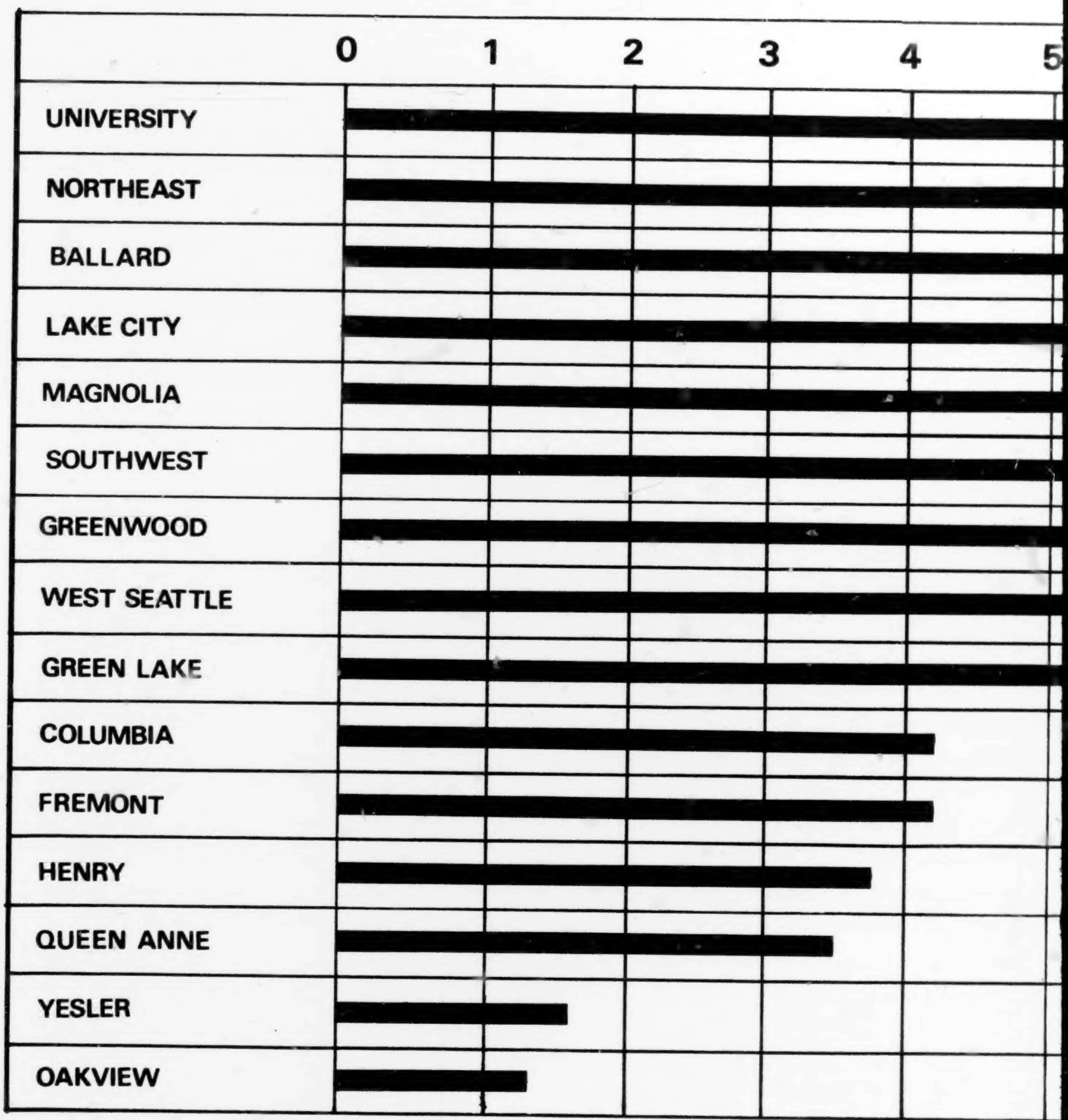
(b) When the resources of a branch library are taxed to capacity by a continuing increased use, enlargement of the branch with corresponding increase in staff and books in the answer. When such action is impossible due to site or building limitations, a possible solution is an increase in number of public service hours.

(c) Hours of service in all the branch libraries are below the standard. Required for a city system of 500,000 are 63 open hours per week.

(d) Six retirement homes now receiving library service by means of the bookmobile. Requests for such service from retirement and convalescent homes far outnumber the ability to provide the service. Recently established mail service is meeting with some success the needs of shut-ins.

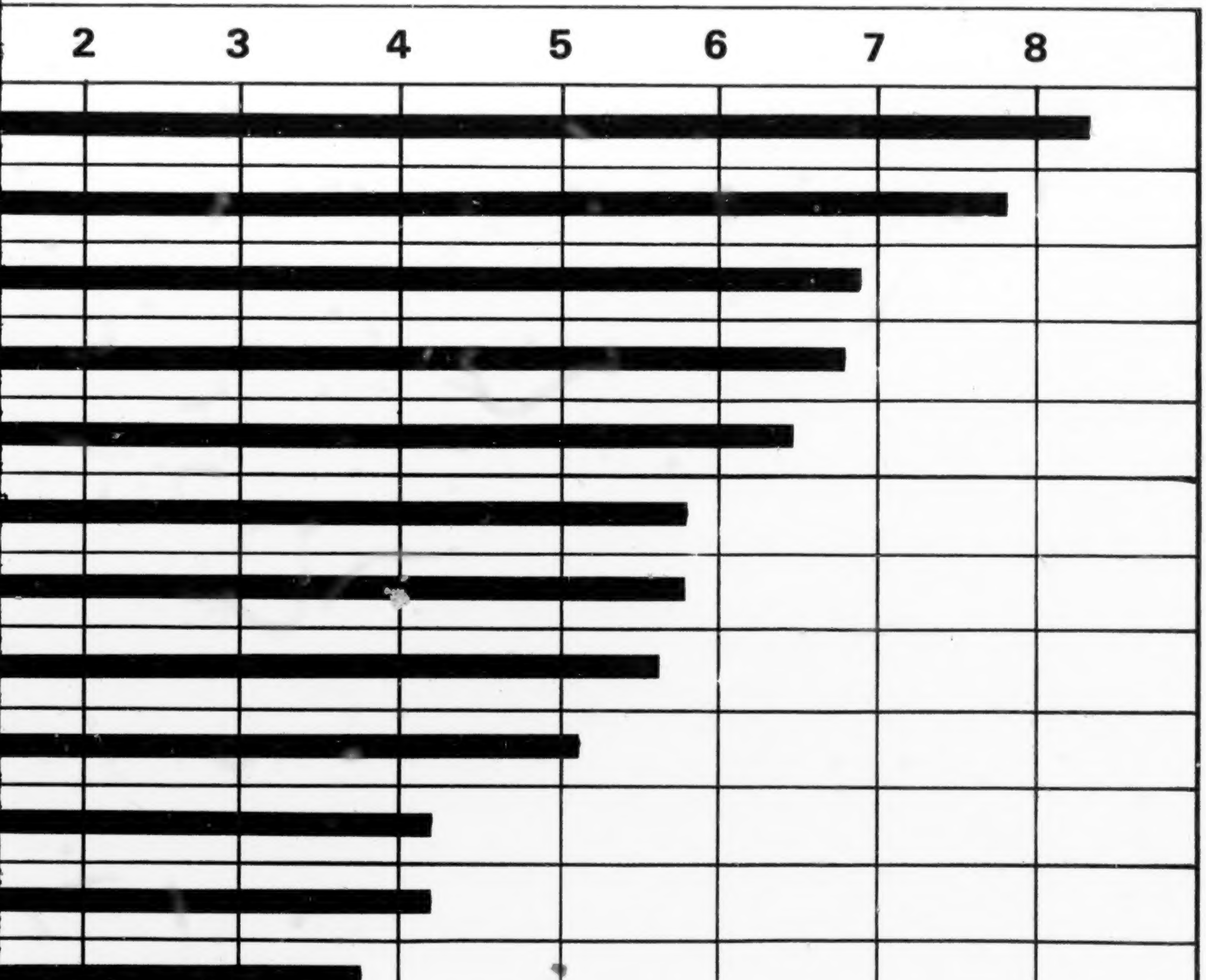
(e) The size of the Central Area and its lack of public transportation, make it difficult for patrons to visit the Yesler Branch by means other than the private automobile. A suggested solution is the establishment of satellite agencies of the Yesler Branch, possibly mobile, which would bring library service to those areas at some distance from the branch.

CIRCULATION PER CAPITA*



*Circulation based on 1969 data

CAPITA*



PLAN FOR LIBRARY LOCATIONS

Recommen
Proposals

The following rec
vestment in improvi
Library System. Ins
in a ten-year capit
priority items shoul
It appears proper, h
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report may then be
new location or des

Some of the recomm
the discrepancy bet
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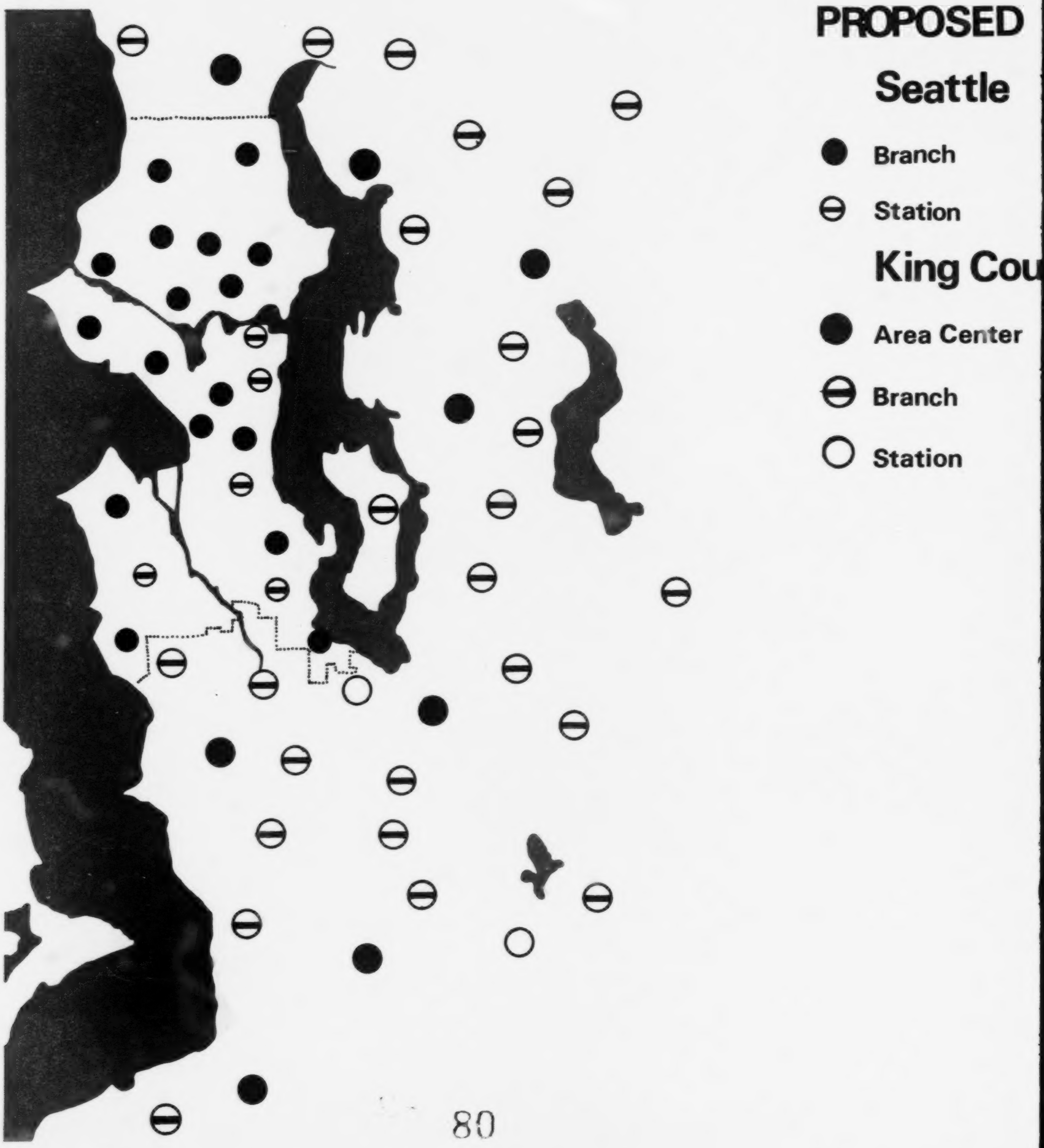
newest branch libra
recommendations po
up-to-date branch s
rather than being c
truly realistic. The
should be the basis
tions to include in
and which to defer

RY

Recommendations and Plan Proposals for Branch Libraries

The following recommendations suggest a priority for investment in improving the weak spots in the Seattle Public Library System. Insofar as they can be met with local funds in a ten-year capital improvement program, only the highest priority items should be chosen for inclusion in the program. It appears proper, however, for this report to point out all the important deficiencies in the system. At a later time, changing population or transportation changes may raise their comparative importance. In any case, as time passes the older buildings will come closer to retirement, and this report may then be used as a basis for suggestion as to new location or design improvements.

Some of the recommendations which follow are based upon the discrepancy between existing older buildings and some of the standards actually applied to design of the very newest branch library facilities. In this sense, some of the recommendations point toward an idealized and completely up-to-date branch system. Since the branch system evolves rather than being created overnight, such an ideal is not truly realistic. The boundary between idealism and realism should be the basis for deciding which of the recommendations to include in a 10-year capital improvement program, and which to defer for later accomplishment.


PROPOSED
Seattle
● Branch
⊖ Station
King Cou
● Area Center
⊖ Branch
○ Station

PROPOSED LIBRARY FACILITIES

Seattle

● **Branch**

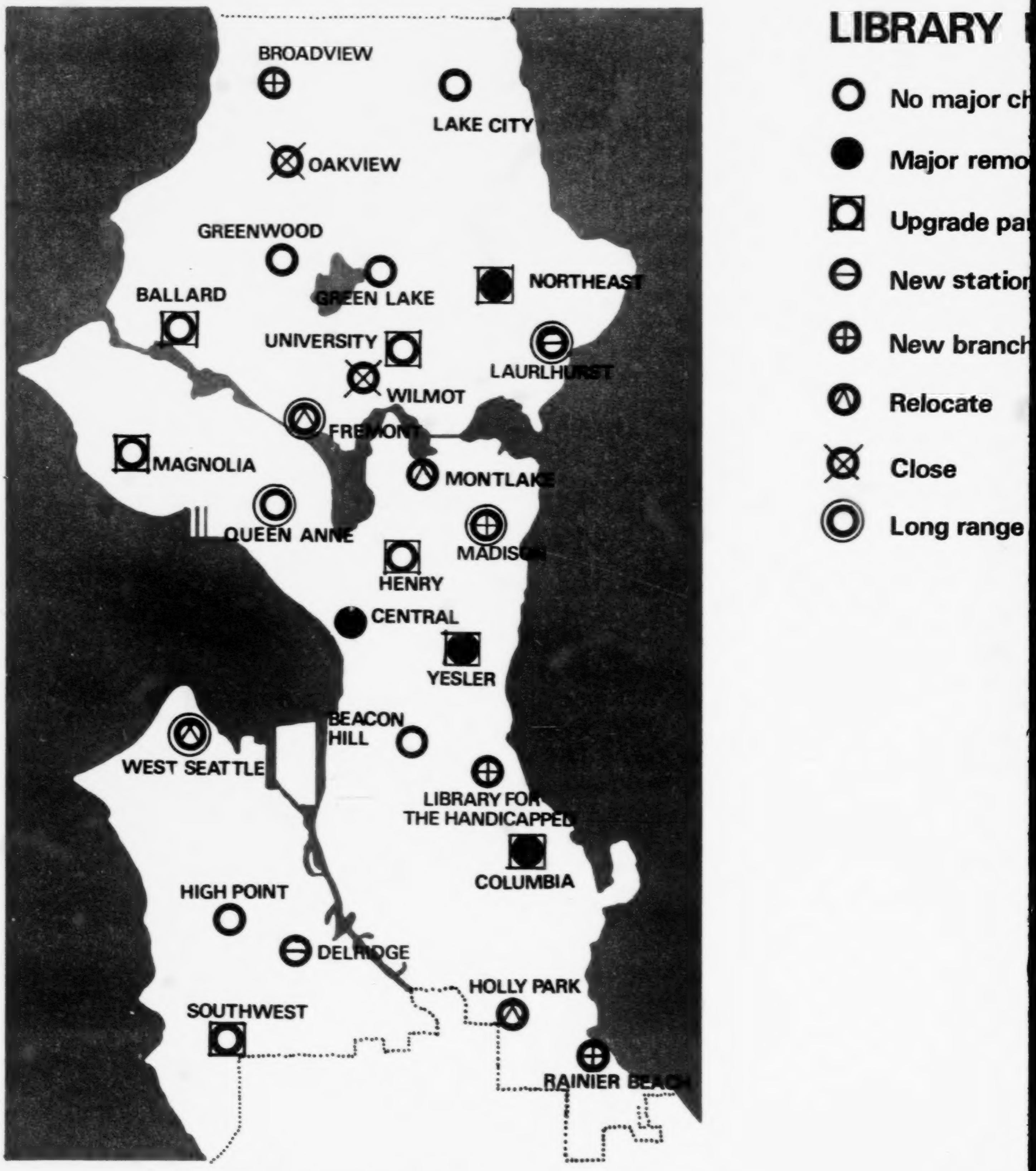
⊖ **Station**

King County

● **Area Center**

⊖ **Branch**

○ **Station**


LIBRARY
○ No major ch
● Major remo
Upgrade pa
New statio
New branch
Relocate
Close
Long range
BROADVIEW
LAKE CITY
OAKVIEW
GREENWOOD
BALLARD
GREEN LAKE
NORTHEAST
UNIVERSITY
LAURLHURST
WILMOT
FREMONT
MAGNOLIA
MONTLAKE
QUEEN ANNE
MADISON
HENRY
CENTRAL
YESLER
BEACON HILL
WEST SEATTLE
LIBRARY FOR THE HANDICAPPED
COLUMBIA
HIGH POINT
DELRIDGE
HOLLY PARK
SOUTHWEST
RAINIER BEACH

LIBRARY FACILITIES PLAN

- ○ No major change
- ● Major remodeling or expansion
- ⊡ Upgrade parking
- ⊖ New station
- ⊕ New branch
- ◬ Relocate
- ⊗ Close
- ◎ Long range proposal

Recommendations*

Suggested Priority

I. Construct the Broadview Branch Library.
  Architect engaged for project in 1967.
  Site purchased in 1967.

II. (a) Purchase site for Library for the Blind. Approximately 20,000 sq. ft. Close to arterials and on transit route.
  (b) Construct service type building of approximately 13,000 sq. ft.

III. Request space, approximately 3,000 square feet, for the Montlake Station Library in or near the Montlake Community Field House, presently scheduled for remodeling and expansion sometime between 1976-1981. The Montlake Playfield is presently scheduled for expansion in 1970.

IV. (a) Remodel and enlarge Columbia Branch by 100-150%.
  (b) Negotiate with Park Department for additional space to provide parking according to code.

V. (a) Purchase a site in the Rainier Beach area for a branch library – 25,000 – 30,000 square feet.
  (b) Construct 8,000 – 9,000 square foot branch library to replace Rainier Beach station.

VI. Establish library station in the Delridge Way area.

VII. Parking expansion at various branches having below 75% of present requirement.

VIII. Central Library addition of three floors.

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* Detailed reasons for these recommendations are found in Appendix A

Long

I. Eventually co
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Fremont.

II. Remodel and
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III. Close the Wil

IV. Study the po
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V. Provide stati
area.

Operational Reco

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(a) an ultima
hours we
(b) an acti
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Long-range Recommendations

I. Eventually consider relocation of two or three existing branches: Queen Anne, West Seattle and possibly Fremont.
II. Remodel and enlarge the Northeast Branch, if increased hours of service do not alleviate the present overloaded conditions.
III. Close the Wilmot Station.
IV. Study the possibility of providing station library service in the Hawthorne Hills-Laurelhurst area.
V. Provide station library service to South Beacon Hill area.

Operational Recommendations Affecting Annual Budget

Although the discussion and recommendations of this "Comprehensive Plan" seem to address themselves to a recital of capital improvement items in an order of suggested priority, it is the firm belief of the library administration that at publication time of this report, a most urgent need facing the Seattle Public Library is a relivant operating budget which would permit the maximum use of our existing facilities.

(a) an ultimate increase in branch hours from 40 to 63 hours weekly.
(b) an activation of the standby bookmobile with sufficient staff to give service to retirement and nursing homes in response to numerous requests for this service.

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SPECIAL NEEDS CATEGORY

The recommendations in this category pertain to innovative approaches to library service in the Central Area. Priorities for these recommendations are the highest, with equal emphasis upon funds for operation as well as capital outlay.

Some suggested additions to existing service – – – – – –

an increase of outlets for paper back reading materials in those locations which are exposed to large numbers of passersby.

an expansion of library oriented programs in the special purpose room of the Yesler Branch Library.

the purchase and operation of several trailer type mobile units, administratively connected to the Yesler Branch, to provide library service to those districts within the Central Area beyond walking distance of the branch.

The purpose of this special needs category is a reiteration of the high priority for such experimentation, and a sanction of aggressive application for outside financial assistance. Model Cities, through its professional staff and Citizen task forces, may well modify or add to this suggested list of additions.

COST ESTIMATES

Cost Estimates

I. Broadview Branch
Site – City-owned N.W
Construction cost – 10,
per sq. ft.
Architect's fee @ 9½% o
Landscaping
Landscape architect's fe
Furnishings – 12% of co
Interior designer's fee @
Artwork
State sales tax & misce
City Branch construc
Contingency @ 5% of co

Books
11,000 juvenile volu
13,000 adult volumes
500 young adult volu
Sales tax @ 5.0%

Processing cost (staff a
@ $2.00 per volume

TOT

Cost Estimates (1970 Dollars)

I. Broadview Branch

Site – City-owned N.W. 130th & Greenwood Way N.

Construction cost – 10,000 sq. ft. @ $25.00 per sq. ft.	$250,000
Architect's fee @ 9½% of construction cost	23,750
Landscaping	5,000
Landscape architect's fee @ 10%	500
Furnishings – 12% of construction cost	30,000
Interior designer's fee @ 15%	4,500
Artwork	5,000
State sales tax & miscellaneous (based on Lake City Branch construction)	12,600
Contingency @ 5% of construction	12,500
	$343,850
Books	
11,000 juvenile volumes @ $5.00	$ 55,000
13,000 adult volumes @ $5.00	65,000
500 young adult volumes @ $5.00	2,500
Sales tax @ 5.0%	6,125
	$ 128,625
Processing cost (staff and materials) @ $2.00 per volume 24,500 x 2	$ 49,000
TOTAL	$521,475

II. Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Site – 25,000 sq. ft. @ $3.50 per square foot	$ 87,500.00
Construction	
Stack space – 9,000 sq. ft. @ $20.00	180,000.00
Office space – 1,500 sq. ft. @ $27.00	40,500.00
Braille-Tape section – 1,000 sq. ft. @ $27.00	27,000.00
Laboratory Library for teaching and research – 1,500 sq. ft. @ $27.00	40,500.00
Total cost of 13,000 sq. ft.	$288,000.00
Architect's fee @ 9½% of construction cost	27,360.00
Landscaping	5,000.00
Landscaping architect's fee @ 10%	500.00
Metal shelving – 12,000 lineal feet @ $3.00 per foot	36,000.00
Taping equipment	$ 1,500.00
Recording equipment	1,700.00
Furnishings and equipment for additional staff	10,000.00
Sales Tax @ 5% and misc.	20,000.00
Contingency	10,000.00
TOTAL	$487,560.00

III. Remodel – Columbia Branch Library

Site – for additional parking	$ 10,000.00
Construction – remodel and enlarge building by 4,000 sq. ft. @ $35.00 per sq. ft.	140,000.00
Architect's fee – 15% of remodeling	21,000.00
Landscaping	3,000.00
Landscape architect's fee @ 10%	300.00
Equipment and furnishing @ 15% of construction	21,000.00
Interior designer's fee @ 15%	3,150.00

Taxes and mis
Contingency

IV. Montlake Stati

Construction
per sq. ft.
Architect's fe
Landscaping
Landscape arc
Furnishings @
Taxes and mis
Contingency @

V. Rainier Beach

Site – 25,000
sq. ft.
Construction –
@ $25.00 pe
Architect's fee
Landscaping
Landscape arch
Furnishings @
Interior design
Artwork
Taxes and misc
Contingency @

Books
6,000 juveni
9,000 adult
500 young a
State sales

Processing (ord
@ $2.00 per

ndicapped

$ 87,500.00

180,000.00
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$487,560.00

$ 10,000.00

140,000.00
21,000.00
3,000.00
300.00

21,000.00
3,150.00

Taxes and miscellaneous	8,000.00
Contingency	4,000.00
TOTAL	$210,450.00

IV. Montlake Station

Construction – 3,000 sq. ft. @ $25.00 per sq. ft.	$ 75,000.00
Architect's fee @ 9½%	7,125.00
Landscaping	2,000.00
Landscape architect's fee @ 10%	200.00
Furnishings @ 11%	11,000.00
Taxes and miscellaneous	5,500.00
Contingency @ 2%	2,000.00
TOTAL	$102,825.00

V. Rainier Beach Branch Library

Site – 25,000 square feet @ $3.50 per sq. ft.	$ 87,500.00
Construction – 8,000 sq. ft. @ $25.00 per sq. ft.	200,000.00
Architect's fee @ 9½%	19,000.00
Landscaping	5,000.00
Landscape architect's fee @ 10%	500.00
Furnishings @ 12% of construction	24,000.00
Interior designer's fee @ 15%	3,600.00
Artwork	4,000.00
Taxes and miscellaneous	11,000.00
Contingency @ 5%	10,000.00
	$364,600.00
Books	
6,000 juvenile volumes @ $5.00	$ 30,000.00
9,000 adult volumes @ $5.00	45,000.00
500 young adult volumes @ $5.00	2,500.00
State sales tax	3,875.00
	$ 81,375.00
Processing (order, catalog and preparation @ $2.00 per volume	31,000.00
TOTAL	$476,975.00

VI. Expand parking at those branches where parking space falls below standard

TOTAL $160,000.00

VII. Delridge Way Station

Books	
4,000 juvenile titles @ $5.00	$ 20,000.00
5,000 adult titles @ $5.00	25,000.00
200 young adult @ $5.00	1,000.00
Sales tax @5.0%	2,300.00
Processing (cataloging, ordering, etc. @ $2.00 per title)	19,000.00
Furniture and equipment	4,000.00
TOTAL	$ 71,300.00

VIII. Central Library – Three Floor Addition

48,900 sq. ft. @ $35.00 per sq. ft.	$1,711,500.00
Architect's fee at 15%	256,725.00
Equipment at 12% of construction cost	205,380.00
Interior designer's fee at 15% of equipment cost	30,796.00
Sales tax and miscellaneous	90,000.00
Contingency at 3%	50,000.00
TOTAL	$2,344,401.00

SPECIAL NEED C

Neighborhood Uni

Trailers (3) 12' x
(per unit) $

Books (per unit)
2,000 paperbac
processing
4,000 hard cov
processing

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TOTAL	$160,000.00

@ $5.00	$ 20,000.00
$5.00	25,000.00
.00	1,000.00
	2,300.00
ng, ordering, etc.	
	19,000.00
ent	4,000.00
	$ 71,300.00

e Floor Addition

0 per sq. ft.	$1,711,500.00
	256,725.00
onstruction cost	205,380.00
at 15% of	
	30,796.00
aneous	90,000.00
	50,000.00
	$2,344,401.00

SPECIAL NEED CATEGORY

Neighborhood Units – Central Area

Trailers (3) 12′ x 60′ with shelving (per unit)	$ 8,000.00	
		(3) $ 24,000.00
Books (per unit)		
2,000 paperbacks @ $2.50 incl. processing	5,000.00	
4,000 hard covers @ $7.00 incl. processing	28,000.00	
	$ 33,000.00	
		(3) $ 99,000.00
TOTAL		$123,000.00

OPERATIONAL COSTS

I. Yearly operational costs for two new branches (Broadview and Rainier Beach).

Utilities	Light	$ 3,221.00
	Water	437.00
	Fuel	1,454.00
		$ 5,113.00
Staff	Professional Clerical Page Custodial	$124,512.00
TOTAL		$129,625.00

II. Yearly operational costs for one new station (Delridge Way).

Rent 2,000 sq. ft. @ 10¢ per ft. per mo. – yearly cost			2,400.00
Utilities	Light	$ 75.00	
	Water	50.00	
	Fuel	200.00	
			325.00
Staff	Clerical Page Custodial		14,000.00
TOTAL			$ 16,725.00

III. Activate the s
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Salaries –
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IV. A recommende
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Branches from

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Salary cost at

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V. Neighborhood U

Yearly operatio
Staff
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ew branches (Broad-

	$ 3,221.00
	437.00
	1,454.00
	$ 5,113.00
	$124,512.00
	$129,625.00

ew station (Delridge

	2,400.00
	325.00
	14,000.00
	$ 16,725.00

III. Activate the standby bookmobile on a half time basis to make stops at retirement and nursing homes in response for numerous requests for this service.

Salaries –	
One half time librarian, clerk and driver	$ 9,240.00
Maintenance on bookmobile	760.00
	$ 10,000.00

IV. A recommended first step in the expansion of public service at Ballard, Northeast, Southwest and Columbia Branches from 40 to 48 hours weekly.

Salary cost at Ballard, Southwest and Columbia, $10,220.00	$ 30,660.00
Salary cost at Northeast	2,770.00
Utilities and cleaning	1,570.00
	$ 35,000.00

V. Neighborhood Units – Central Area

Yearly operation cost (per unit)	
Staff	13,000.00
Utilities	500.00
	$ 13,500.00
TOTAL	(3) $ 40,500.00

APPENDIX A
DETAILED ANALYSIS OF EXISTING LIBRARIES

Evaluation

BALLARD BRANCH
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Recommendatio

COLUMBIA BRANC
3,522 square feet,
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room, service hallw
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view into the inter
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standing deficienci

Recommendation

A remodelling progr
(a) increase public
square feet.
(b) control new c
building is pres
(c) provide parkin
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FREMONT BRANCH
that has changed fr
light industrial are
cause of circulati
needed to justify
fledged branch.

The convenient acc
and its proximity t
Ship Canal are fa

Evaluation of Branches

BALLARD BRANCH is an attractive, well landscaped building, bold in design, with rubble stone walls and piers, and a gabled shale roof with an unusual skylight built into the ridge. An excellent relationship between off-street parking and the main entrance, good interior layout, and general conformance with all standards makes this a very adequate branch.

Recommendation: None

COLUMBIA BRANCH LIBRARY has a main floor area of only 3,522 square feet, which accommodates not only the adult and children's public areas, but also a staff room, a work room, service hallway, and a lavatory. The main floor needs to be increased by at least 100%. Steps at the entrance, no view into the interior from the street, and a heating plant which cannot maintain necessary temperatures, are outstanding deficiencies in this building.

Recommendations:

A remodelling program within the next few years to:
(a) increase public floor area to a total of 7,000 – 8,000 square feet.
(b) control new construction so that period style of the building is preserved.
(c) provide parking in accordance with code on land acquired from the Park Department.

FREMONT BRANCH LIBRARY is located in a part of the City that has changed from a residential area to a predominately light industrial area, and this change has been largely the cause of circulation figures that are below the standards needed to justify the operation of a library as a full fledged branch.

The convenient access of this section to downtown Seattle and its proximity to marine activity on Lake Union and the Ship Canal are factors that seem to be attracting some development of apartments. However, it appears unlikely that future apartment development will be so intensive that circulation in the Fremont Branch will increase to accepted standards, and as a result reduction of service hours, location or even closure of the branch should be considered.

The slope of the site makes possible a full daylight basement in the building, but the angle is so steep that a truck service entrance from the front or the alley is impossible. storage of materials is confined to those materials that can be carried down a stairway from the street level. Parking on library property is impossible to provide due to the extreme slope of the site.

Recommendation:

Study alternate sites toward the north and east in the Wallingford area. Meantime, operate as station in interim with reduced hours, if utilization rates of this branch continue to decrease.

GREEN LAKE BRANCH LIBRARY eliminated its parking problem when adjacent property was purchased and developed into a parking lot in 1967.

The refurbished auditorium area now houses book stacks and some office space for the bookmobile. A typical "Carnegie" entrance with stairs outside and just inside the front doors is an inconvenience for the handicapped and the elderly. Otherwise the branch is spacious, in good repair and serves its patrons adequately.

Recommendation:

No significant further improvements are needed.

GREENWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY is a 15 year old reinforced concrete and steel frame structure whose exterior and interior walls are faced with natural brick. It enjoys an excellent location on Greenwood Avenue on the periphery of the business district.

Minor remodeling in 1963, un
architect, moved the staff r
creasing desperately needed

A long narrow built-in displ
the building facing the sidev
afternoon sun and is not v
placed in this case are nea
excessive heat or moistur

Recommendation:

Parking space should be incr
An all weather display case

HENRY BRANCH LIBRARY is
concrete, faced with Wilke
glass permitting a view int
tion, a ramped entryway, and
to the Broadway shopping a
atmosphere of this branch.
room limited in size are maj

Recommendation:

The Henry Branch ideally s
space. The high cost of lan
precludes any site expansi
apartment building just to t
has been estimated to cos
easement across an adjoinir
to a 6,000 sq. ft. lot, enough

LAKE CITY BRANCH LIBRA
newest branch library in the
Merit" bestowed by the l
Institute of Architects for ex

All standards for reader and
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building. Its good location
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Minor remodeling in 1963, under the direction of the original architect, moved the staff room to the basement, thus increasing desperately needed work space.

A long narrow built-in display case across one portion of the building facing the sidewalk has no protection from the afternoon sun and is not water tight. Display materials placed in this case are nearly always damaged by either excessive heat or moisture from condensation or rain.

Recommendation:

Parking space should be increased.
An all weather display case should be constructed.

HENRY BRANCH LIBRARY is a crisply designed structure of concrete, faced with Wilkeson stone. Extensive use of glass permitting a view into the interior, good identification, a ramped entryway, and a convenient location adjacent to the Broadway shopping area, contribute to the inviting atmosphere of this branch. A small parking lot and a work room limited in size are major deficiencies.

Recommendation:

The Henry Branch ideally should have additional parking space. The high cost of land in the area around the library precludes any site expansion in the near future. A small apartment building just to the southwest of the library site has been estimated to cost about $50,000. A pedestrian easement across an adjoining property would allow access to a 6,000 sq. ft. lot, enough for 15 parking spaces.

LAKE CITY BRANCH LIBRARY, completed in 1965, is the newest branch library in the system. It holds an "Award of Merit" bestowed by the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects for excellence of design.

All standards for reader and book space, parking, air conditioning and use by the handicapped have been met in this building. Its good location close to the business district, and on a major arterial, might be jeopardized by a large interchange nearby if the Thomson Expressway is built.

Recommendation: None

MAGNOLIA BRANCH LIBRARY, built in 1964 was presented with the citation "First Honor Award" given by the American Institute of Architects, the American Library Association and the National Book Committee in their third annual awards program.

A gas furnace of insufficient capacity to offset the heat loss caused by large window area, and high clerestories, seem to be the only drawbacks to this building.

Recommendation:

While the number of spaces in the parking lot is below standard, there is no problem at present. Development of adjacent property may change this situation.

NORTH EAST BRANCH LIBRARY is situated on a heavily travelled north-south arterial four blocks away from a community shopping center and had a yearly circulation in 1968 of 315,863 home loans.

Recommendation:

Library hours should be increased from 40 to 60 to relieve present overloads. Eventually, the building should be enlarged to provide more shelf space for children's and adult books, more space for readers, and more work space for the staff. The parking area should be expanded if the opportunity occurs to buy land adjacent to the present site.

OAKVIEW BRANCH occupies a government surplus building on a site which was purchased by the community. After annexation in 1955, this property was deeded to the City of Seattle with the proviso that it, or money received from its sale, always be used for library purposes.

The Oakview Branch is below standard in all respects of library service, in the quality and size of the building, in reader and book space, in work space, in lighting, in heating and in location. Hours of service are 29 weekly as compared with 40 for the other branches.

Recommendation:

This branch will be cl
is built.

QUEEN ANNE BRANCH i
red brick building of the
strictly symmetrical, wi
small leaded glass panes

The branch is used only
in a high density popula
ciencies in this building
parking, a difficult entra
location at some distanc
these conditions can be

Recommendation:

Eventually relocate the
business areas.

SOUTHWEST BRANCH L
traveled arterial, on a b
major intersection. A sm
used, has been taken
provide additional space

Recommendation:

This branch meets all
range plan, some increa

UNIVERSITY BRANCH LIB
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and on the periphery of
district. These are two v
of today.

The branch has been o
braries in the Seattle lib
circulation beginning i
enough with the adoptio
Way in 1960. The drop i

Recommendation:

This branch will be closed when the Broadview Branch is built.

QUEEN ANNE BRANCH is a pleasing and graciously styled red brick building of the 1914 era. It is Georgian Colonial, strictly symmetrical, with a green slate gabled roof, and small leaded glass panes in the windows.

The branch is used only moderately considering its location in a high density population area. The most serious deficiencies in this building are a complete lack of off-street parking, a difficult entrance with two sets of stairs, and a location at some distance from the shopping area. None of these conditions can be easily or inexpensively remedied.

Recommendation:

Eventually relocate the building in one of the Queen Anne business areas.

SOUTHWEST BRANCH LIBRARY is located on a heavily traveled arterial, on a bus line, and within one block of a major intersection. A small meeting room which was little used, has been taken over by the children's section to provide additional space for children's books.

Recommendation:

This branch meets all standards adequately. In the long range plan, some increase in parking would be desirable.

UNIVERSITY BRANCH LIBRARY built 58 years ago, occupies a donated site at the intersection of two major arterials, and on the periphery of the sprawling University business district. These are two valid and important location criteria of today.

The branch has been one of the most intensely used libraries in the Seattle library system. The gradual decline in circulation beginning in 1961, corresponds interestingly enough with the adoption of one way traffic on Roosevelt Way in 1960. The drop in children's circulation may be due to the establishment of libraries in every primary and secondary school in Seattle.

The deficiencies in the building are products of its age. Apart from the librarian's office, no work space for the staff was designed into the branch. Two sets of stairs in a formal terraced entrance, and another set of stairs just within the front doors are formidable barriers for the handicapped to overcome. A small space for parking built some years ago at the rear of the building, is an inadequate solution to the parking problem.

Recommendation:

A remodelling program to correct these deficiencies would be a costly project. An intelligent recommendation could be made upon such a project only after rezoning recommendations and the location of the proposed East-West expressway in the University district have been finally determined.

WEST SEATTLE BRANCH has served its patrons from the same site and the same building since July 1910. Its location was improved considerably when a modern supermarket was recently in the same block.

A modernization program extending over the past few years has provided an automatic heating plant, new front doors, new floor covering, new lighting and a small parking lot in the rear. Still to be done is the refurbishing of the staff room with its ancient appliances, and the planting of shrubbery and trees to restore the charm of this substantial building as it existed years ago.

The other deficiencies not so easily solved: outside steps that always seem to be a part of entrances to Carnegie Buildings, and the lack of staff work room. The librarian's office, used for this purpose, is a poor substitute and results in crowded and inefficient working conditions.

Library service in the West Seattle peninsula underwent a noticeable change with the opening of the new Southwest Branch in 1961, 4 miles south of the West Seattle Branch. While this new branch attracted many new borrowers, a substantial number
branch, for its circu
25%. Should an ad
vicinity of Morgan
the two existing b
enough new borro
its operation.

Recommendation:
In order to provide
Peninsula, the West
tually to California
from its present lo
section of the city
is extremely doubt
meanwhile, before
the building should
be refurbished.

YESLER BRANCH LI
corner site at the i
property was obtain
front of the Frye H
by Henry L. Yesler f

Minor deficiencies i
steps at the front
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The real problems a
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substantial number must have forsaken the West Seattle branch, for its circulation declined from 1961 until 1967, by 25%. Should an additional branch be considered in the vicinity of Morgan and California streets midway between the two existing branch libraries, it is questionable that enough new borrowers would be attracted to justify its operation.

Recommendation:
In order to provide a more even coverage for the West Seattle Peninsula, the West Seattle Branch should be moved eventually to California Avenue southward approximately a mile from its present location. A population of 83,900 in this section of the city now supports two branches adequately. It is extremely doubtful that it could support three. In the meanwhile, before any contemplated relocation, the front of the building should be landscaped and the staff room should be refurbished.

YESLER BRANCH LIBRARY is ideally situated on a large corner site at the intersection of two major arterials. The property was obtained by an exchange of a triangle lot in front of the Frye Hotel originally given the City of Seattle by Henry L. Yesler for library purposes.

Minor deficiencies in the 55 year old building are the usual steps at the front entrance, and the lack of office work space. Parking can be developed to the east of the building by covering with asphalt a lawn where children usually play ball.

The real problems at the Yesler Branch have to do with our lack of knowledge of what a public library means in this kind of community. More insight is needed concerning the needs of our real and potential patrons, and how to bring our resources, as we acquire them, to the attention of the Central Area citizens.

A beginning has been made. Since 1965 the Yesler librarian has been building up a Negro Life and History collection to stimulate and to satisfy the Negro's awakening interest in his cultural heritage. Anything pertinent by or about the

Afro-American, some selected works about Africa, and works on race relations go into this collection. The magazine subscription list has been changed to bring it into line with community realities. Pamphlets, visual materials, and a picture file of Afro-American and African personages have been added to the collection.

Involving the library in community activities seems to be the most rewarding method of increasing our knowledge of the library's public and vice versa. Yesler Branch continues to host such activities as Negro History Week, history of church music, children's movies, art exhibits and work with social agencies.

Early in 1969, the auditorium was completely remodelled at a cost of $30,000 to provide modern facilities for library oriented programs such as, informal discussion groups, art appreciation, small theatrical and music productions, and poetry reading.

We must make every effort to find out more about Negro library needs: and there is such a thing as Negro library needs. We must continue to stimulate an interest in the Negro's culture and heritage, and to supply materials for that interest; at the same time we must maintain the standards of a well rounded branch collection.

Evaluation of Stations

BEACON HILL STATION LIBRARY is located at the intersection of two major arterials, on a bus line, and in the heart of a community shopping area. The store type building is spacious, in reasonably good repair, its level entrance is inviting, and large windows permit a view into the interior.

When the station moved to its present quarters in 1963, circulation showed a 23% increase in a one year period. It has maintained a level of approximately 47,000 loans per year since then. An increase of weekly service hours to 32½ did not produce a measurable increase in circulation.

Recommendation:

Based on the present use o
ment of plans to locate th
Hill, the establishment of
contemplated at this time.

The establishment of anothe
of Beacon Hill would im
community.

HIGH POINT LIBRARY STATI
the High Point Housing Pr
moved from the Administra
floor of an apartment unit.
hours of service from 8 to
stock, and the accessibilit
tifying sign resulted in a 49

The Housing Project now ca
come families. With very fe
borrowers of the High Point
the Southwest Branch Librar
the use of the station.

Recommendation:

None, no further changes at

HOLLY PARK STATION LIBRA
Park Housing Project in 194
pied new and larger quarte
by the remodelling of two a
serves mainly the resident
location within the project
borhood residents.

Recommendation:

None, no further improvemen

MONTLAKE STATION LIBRA
location in 1944. Since that
to do no maintenance or re
building. The interior, in s

Recommendation:

Based on the present use of this station, and the abandonment of plans to locate the community college on Beacon Hill, the establishment of a branch library should not be contemplated at this time.

The establishment of another station in the southern portion of Beacon Hill would improve library service to this community.

HIGH POINT LIBRARY STATION was established in 1942 in the High Point Housing Project. In 1962 the library was moved from the Administration Building into the ground floor of an apartment unit. The additional space, increased hours of service from 8 to 12 per week, the larger book stock, and the accessibility of the building with its identifying sign resulted in a 49% increase in circulation.

The Housing Project now caters to retired and low income families. With very few exceptions, these make up the borrowers of the High Point Library station. The opening of the Southwest Branch Library in 1961 has had no effect on the use of the station.

Recommendation:

None, no further changes at present.

HOLLY PARK STATION LIBRARY was established in the Holly Park Housing Project in 1943. In June 1969 the library occupied new and larger quarters in the project made possible by the remodelling of two adjacent apartments. The station serves mainly the residents of the project, for its central location within the project precludes easy use by neighborborhood residents.

Recommendation:

None, no further improvement needed at present.

MONTLAKE STATION LIBRARY was opened in its present location in 1944. Since that time, the landlord has seen fit to do no maintenance or refurbishing to the exterior of the building. The interior, in spite of periodic painting, is un-attractive and dingy. The space is partly divided by a wall which interferes with circulation and it is impossible to ventilate properly in the hot weather.

The Seattle Public Library continues to operate this station because there is literally no other suitable building for rent in the area, and because the station offers a service which is appreciated and well supported by loyal patrons.

Recommendation:

Since the Montlake area is hemmed in by the ship canal, the University Campus and the Arboretum, it will never have the population to support a full sized branch library. The optimum solution would be a library purchase of property, and the construction of a sub-branch of 3,000 square feet. Because any property suitable for library use is all improved in this area, and the Montlake residents are unalterably opposed to the removal of housing for whatever purpose, the alternative is the inclusion of space for a library in the Montlake Community Center field house which is scheduled for remodelling and expansion.

RAINIER BEACH STATION LIBRARY was opened in September, 1966, in a refurbished store type building whose owner sought the advice of the library prior to remodelling. An excellent location on a bus line, at the intersection of two arterials, and in a shopping area, meets all standards. Good lighting, good identification, adequate space for books, readers and staff are appreciated by enthusiastic patrons who support the station in ever-increasing numbers.

Recommendation:

Continuing and growing support such as this merits the establishment of a full sized branch library within a few years.

WILMOT STATION LIBRARY and the lot upon which it stands was bequeathed to the Seattle Public Library in 1948 by Mrs. James E. Dennis in memory of her sister, Florence Wilmot Metcalf. The conditions of the will stated in part that the property be used to establish a branch library, and be so maintained for at least thirty years from the date thereof.

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ort such as this merits the es-
nch library within a few years.

d the lot upon which it stands
tle Public Library in 1948 by
emory of her sister, Florence
ns of the will stated in part
establish a branch library, and
st thirty years from the date

The Community Club and the residents of the district contributed $4,400.00 to renovate and remodel the bungalow type house. It was opened for service in September, 1949.

A stairway at the entrance, load bearing partitions resulting in small rooms, no parking and no view into the interior are obvious deficiencies. Its location within the service area of both the University and Fremont branches is a significant factor in its moderate use.

Recommendation:

Serious consideration should be given to closing this library station.

BOOKMOBILE STATION HEADQUARTERS occupies the refurbished auditorium and basement of the Green Lake Branch where reasonably good facilities are available for materials and some staff.

Recommendation:

The desired unification of the Bookmobile Department with books, staff and machines under one roof, will be realized upon the transfer of this Department to the lower floor of the Henry Branch Library when the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped moves to its new building.

LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED occupies the daylight basement of the Henry Branch Library. Because of the recent expansion of this service to include the physically handicapped, the building is deficient in stock space, staff work space and public parking. Since it is impractical to increase the present quarters by the 80 – 100% necessary to accommodate the expansion, a new building is the solution. Its priority is next below that of the Broadview Branch construction.

Recommendation:

A new service type building of 13,000 square feet (see note) should be constructed. A suitable location would be the general area of the State Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, where property is still available and relatively inexpensive.

Because all sightless and physically handicapped residents of the states of Washington, Alaska, and Montana look to the agency for their library service, it would seem appropriate that the cost of a new building not be borne solely by the City of Seattle. Assistance from some department of state government such as the Department of Institutions, Public Assistance, or the State Library should be sought.

APPENDIX B

RATING SYSTEM FOR BRANCH LIBRARY FACILITIES

RATING SYSTEM FOR STATION LIBRARY FACILITIES

RATING SYSTEM FOR BRANCH SERVICE AND UTILIZATION

Rating S

A comparative
ning Departme
within the ex
standards.

LOCATION
(1) Proximity to
More than
Less than
On arteria

(2) Proximity to
or other Sim
Distant
Neighborh
Adjacent
Immediate
"In"

(3) Visibility f
Pedestrian
Poor
Fair
Excellent

(4) Proximity to
More than
150′ to 30
0′ to 150′
Fronting 2

Rating Scale for Branch Libraries

A comparative evaluation of branches created by the Planning Department and the Library Staff to show differences within the existing system and relationship to national standards.

LOCATION

(1) Proximity to Community Arterial	(10 points maximum)
More than 300′	0 points
Less than 300′	5 points
On arterial	10 points
(2) Proximity to Shopping Area or other Similar Attraction	(7 points maximum)
Distant	0 points
Neighborhood Shopping	1 point
Adjacent	3 points
Immediately Adjacent	5 points
"In"	7 points
(3) Visibility from Main Travel or Pedestrian Way	(5 points maximum)
Poor	0 points
Fair	3 points
Excellent	5 points
(4) Proximity to Bus Route	(8 points maximum)
More than 300′	0 points
150′ to 300′	3 points
0′ to 150′	5 points
Fronting 2 intersecting routes	8 points
	30 points maximum

PARKING

(1) Per Cent of Standard (1 space/250 sq. ft. usable building space)

e.g. 24 spaces provided/32 required = 66% = 6.6 points
32 spaces provided/32 required = 100% = 10 points

10 points maximum

LANDSCAPING

(1) Trees and other planting

None	0 points
Minimal	1 point
Adequate	2 points
Excellent	3 points

3 points maximum

BUILDING DETAILS

(1) Building Condition

Poor	1 point
Fair	2 points
Good	4 points
Excellent	5 points

5 points maximum

(2) Air Conditioning

No	0 points
Yes	2 points

2 points maximum

(3) Lighting

Poor	1 point
Adequate	3 points
Standard (70 ft. candles)	5 points

5 points maximum

(4) Meet
N
Ye

(5) Offic
N
A
Ex

(6) Load
N
A
G

(7) Leve
N
Y

(8) View
N
Li
G

q. ft. usable build-

66% = 6.6 points
100% = 10 points

10 points maximum

points
point
points
points

3 points maximum

point
points
points
points

5 points maximum

points
points

2 points maximum

point
points
points

5 points maximum

(4) Meeting Room

No	0 points
Yes	4 points

4 points maximum

(5) Office Work Space

None	0 points
Adequate	3 points
Excellent	6 points

6 points maximum

(6) Loading Book and Service Entrance

None	0 points
Adequate	1 point
Good	2 point

2 points maximum

(7) Level Entrance for Patrons

No	0 points
Yes	5 points

5 points maximum

(8) View into Building

None	0 points
Limited	1 point
Good	3 points

3 points maximum

30 points maximum

BUILDING SIZE

(1) Per cent of Standard (1 sq. ft./4 people in service area) 7,000 – 15,000 sq. ft.

e.g. 5,000 sq. ft./40,000 pop. = 50% = 8 points
7,000 sq. ft./40,000 pop. = 75% = 11 points
10,000 sq. ft./40,000 pop. = 100% = 15 points

For below-standard sized buildings, deduct 1 point for each 500 sq. ft. below the minimum standard of 7,000 sq. ft.

15 points maximum

SITE SIZE

(1) Per Cent of Standard (Approx. three times greater than proper building size) range between 25,000 – 40,000 sq. ft.

e.g. 10,000 sq. ft. bldg., 30,000 sq. ft. site = 100% = 5 points

For below-standard sized sites, deduct 1 point for each 5,000 sq. ft. below the minimum standard of 25,000 sq. ft.

10 points maximum

TOTAL OF ALL CHARACTERISTICS . . . . 100 points maximum

Rating Scale for Station Libraries

A comparative evaluation of stations created by the Planning Department and the Library Staff to show differences within the existing system and relationships to national standards.

LOCATION

(1) Relationship to arterials	(13 points maximum)
More than 300′	0 points
Less than 300′	5 points
On arterial	10 points
On one or more arterial	13 points

(2) Proximity to shopping area	(15 points maximum)
More than 300′	3 points
Neighborhood shopping	5 points
Adjacent	7 points
Immediately Adjacent	10 points
In	15 points
Distance (more than 4 blocks)	0 points

(3) View from street into building	(5 points maximum)
(from main travel or pedestrian way)	
None	0 points
Fair	3 points
Excellent	5 points

(4) Proximity to bus route	(10 points maximum)
More than 300′	0 points
150 ′ to 300′	5 points
0′ to 150′	8 points

Less than 300 ft. from 2 intersecting routes – 10 points

BUILDING SIZE
Per Cent of St
1,500 to 3,500
e.g. 3,500 sq.

PARKING
Per Cent of St
area)

BUILDING DETAIL
(1) Building Condi
Poor
Fair
Good
Excellent

(2) Interior Lightir
Poor
Adequate
Standard (7

(3) Air Conditioni
No
Yes

(4) Office Work Sp
None
Inadequate
Adequate

tation Libraries

tions created by the Plan-
Staff to show differences
relationships to national

(13 points maximum)
0 points
5 points
10 points
13 points

(15 points maximum)
3 points
5 points
7 points
10 points
15 points
) 0 points

(5 points maximum)
vay)
0 points
3 points
5 points

(10 points maximum)
0 points
5 points
8 points
ting routes – 10 points

BUILDING SIZE

Per Cent of Standard (1 sq. ft./4 people in service area)
1,500 to 3,500 sq. ft. Standard
e.g. 3,500 sq. ft./14,000 population = 100% = 15 points

15 points maximum

PARKING

Per Cent of Standard (1 space per 250 sq. ft. of service area)

10 points maximum

BUILDING DETAILS

(1) Building Condition	(5 points maximum)
Poor	1 point
Fair	2 points
Good	4 points
Excellent	5 points

(2) Interior Lighting	(7 points maximum)
Poor	2 points
Adequate	4 points
Standard (70 candles)	7 points

(3) Air Conditioning	(3 points maximum)
No	0 points
Yes	3 points

(4) Office Work Space	(7 points maximum)
None	0 points
Inadequate	5 points
Adequate	7 points

114

(5) Level Entrance	(5 points maximum)
No	0 points
Yes	5 points
(6) Prominent Sign	(5 points maximum)
No	0 points
Inadequate	3 points
Yes	5 points
	32 points maximum

TOTAL 100 points maximum

Evaluation of Service and Utilization for Branches

A comparative evaluation of branches created by the Planning Department and the Library Staff to show differences within the existing system and relationships to national standards.

BOOK STOCK PER CAPITA

(1) Per Cent of Standard (20,000 – 60,000, 1 book/capita in service area)

e.g. 30,000 volumes/30,000 population=100%= 25 points
15,000 volumes/30,000 population= 50%=12.5 points
10,000 volumes/30,000 population= 33-1/3%= 8.3 points

25 points maximum

CIRCULATION

(1) Per Cent of 100,000 circulation (economic level) = (15 points maximum)

e.g. 66,000 circulation = 66-2/3% = 10 points

(2) Circulation Per Capita (10 points maximum)
(# loans per person in service area)

e.g. 30,000 population/150,000 circulation = 5 points

25 points maximum

STAFF

(1) Per Cent of Standard (1 staff/25,000 circulation) +

e.g. 4 staff/100,000 circulation + 100% = 25 points
3 staff/100,000 circulation = 75% = 18-½ points

25 points maximum

HOURS

(1) Per Cent o
100% = 25 p
e.g. 40 hou

* = MILWAUKEE LIB
** = WHEELER AND G
+ = A.L.A. STANDA
• = MINIMUM STAN

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ationships to national

60,000, 1 book/capita

tion=100%= 25 points
tion= 50%=12.5 points
tion= 33-1/3%=
8.3 points

25 points maximum

(economic level) = (15

= 10 points

(10 points maximum)
ea)
irculation = 5 points

25 points maximum

000 circulation) +
+ 100% = 25 points
= 75% = 18-½ points

25 points maximum

HOURS

(1) Per Cent of Standard (60 hours desirable maximum) =
100% = 25 points
e.g. 40 hours = 66-2/3% = 16-2/3 points°

TOTAL 100 points maximum

* = MILWAUKEE LIBRARY REPORT

** = WHEELER AND GOLDNOR, OP. CIT., PAGE 412

+ = A.L.A. STANDARDS

° = MINIMUM STANDARD FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE